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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

VICE-REGAL PATRONAGE OF CANADIAN SPORT:

1867 - 1916

by

(C)

MARY KATHRYN McLAUGHLIN

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH  
IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE  
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FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The undersigned certify that they have read,  
and recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies  
and Research, for acceptance, a thesis entitled  
"Vice-Regal Patronage of Canadian Sport: 1867-1916"  
submitted by Mary Kathryn McLaughlin in partial  
fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of  
Master of Arts.



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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

Governors-General exerted a significant influence on the development of sport in nineteenth-century Canada to a degree not sufficiently appreciated nor examined to date. Vice-regal patronage of post-Confederation sport, which was at that time characterized by a trend toward urban from rural and to highly organized competition from unstructured participation, was a unique catalyst to growth. It is the purpose of this study to attempt to fill this void in the continuing exploration of Canadian sport.

The academic study of the history of Canadian sport forms part of a broader fund of knowledge of international sport, origins of games and pastimes and their diffusion across cultural lines. Works by such authors as Diem<sub>1</sub> and Arlott and Daley<sub>2</sub> provide an overview of sport history on an international scale while Betts<sub>3</sub> and Howell and Howell<sub>4</sub> offer similar insights into the North American experience.

More pertinent to this study are the chronological and thematic examinations of Canadian sport. Three dissertations completed at the University of Alberta chronicled the development of Canadian sport. Lindsay<sub>5</sub> documented the growth of approximately forty pre-Confederation sports. The thrust of sport as a highly organized and rationalized social force in



the post-Confederation era was examined by Cox.<sup>6</sup> Jones,<sup>7</sup> outlined the development of Canadian sport during the first twenty years of the present century.

Certain characteristics of nineteenth-century Canadian sport are clearly evident. Jobling<sup>8</sup> pointed out the impact of technological advances. The influence of certain national ethnic groups on sport was also significant. From this perspective Redmond examined "The Scots and Sport in Nineteenth-Century Canada".<sup>9</sup> These are just two examples of useful thematic studies.

It becomes necessary for the purpose of this study not only to draw from the literature in the area of sport history, some of which has been mentioned, but also to gain familiarity with socio-historical studies of Canada's Governors-General. Stewart<sup>10</sup> and Collins<sup>11</sup> are credited with the definitive works on Lord Dufferin and Lord Lorne respectively. Cowan<sup>12</sup> offers an overview of the contributions of nineteen Governors-General and a record of Rideau Hall as an active social center is outlined in detail by Hubbard.<sup>13</sup>

The time frame selected for the study was 1867 to 1916. The year of Confederation was deemed to be an appropriate measurement both in terms of paralleled writings of Canadian sport and the changing role of the Governor-General. The



beginning of the First World War was a significant date in the political history of Canada and a logical concluding parameter in the time frame of this study. Although 1914 was the actual date, the year 1916 was chosen for the purposes of this study as this marked the conclusion of the Duke of Connaught's term of office.

A further limitation reflects the importance of certain Governors-General relative to their significance in this area. The contributions of ten of Canada's vice-regal officers are outlined with status warranting detailed examination given to eight of these, from Lord Dufferin to the Duke of Connaught inclusive. Governor-General Monck and Lisgar are mentioned only briefly as they were the earliest in office and the social roles of the position remained to be established in Lord Dufferin's term.

Primary sources were utilized where possible, with research having been completed at the Public Archives, Ottawa. In some cases records from Government House not yet released to the Records Division for public use were examined. This will become evident in the assigned references.

Justification for this study rests on the premise that Governors-General have been a significant influence on the development of sport in nineteenth-Century Canada, to a degree not sufficiently appreciated nor examined to date. A corollary to this is the uniqueness of their contribution in the context of North American sport. By nature of the historical and



constitution role of the Queen's representative in Canada, there is no comparable office in the United States. Therefore this is an examination of a distinctively Canadian factor in a field where the social forces which moulded the development of sport in Canada mirrored those of the United States.

As the primary purpose of this paper is to illustrate the significance of vice-regal patronage, either directly or indirectly, on the development of Canadian sport, certain themes warrant examination.

It will be shown the Governors-General supported sports which were promoted by national interest groups (e.g. curling-the Scots) and sports which maintained links with Britain were significantly endorsed, such as cricket, rifle shooting and football.

However, endorsement was not restricted to traditional sports which were familiar to the Governors-General from earlier years of schooling. The novel and changing character of the new Dominion led several Governors-General to expound on the future of the nation. It became imperative that it should have its own games reflecting this enthusiasm. Thus, the Northern theme- pursuit of those traits of hardiness and vigor- is significant in accounting for the popularity of winter sports.



The trophies which were presented for national or international competition were significant at the time and many are still symbolic of major accomplishment to this day. These lasting awards are tangible evidence of vice-regal awareness of the importance of sport in Canada's social development.

Finally, it will be shown that the wives of several Governors-General were influential in supporting several sports either directly through participation or indirectly through presentation of awards.

It is useful to provide some working definitions of important terms:

'Vice-regal patronage' refers to the support given to a club or association by a Governor-General. It may be in the form of official recognition in name only; active participation; or a substantial award such as a medal or trophy.

It is hoped that this study will demonstrate the notability of vice-regal patronage in the phenomenal growth and rise in popularity of leisure activities and competitive games in post-Confederation Canada.



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<sup>10</sup>George Stewart, Canada Under the Administration of the Earl of Dufferin (Toronto, 1878)

<sup>11</sup>J. E. Collins, Canada Under the Administration of Lord Lorne (Toronto, 1884)

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<sup>13</sup>R. H. Hubbard, Rideau Hall (Ottawa, 1967)





Plate 1 Rideau Hall, Government House  
Residence of the Governor-General  
Ottawa, Ontario



Plate 2 Lord Monck First Governor-General  
and Family, Rideau Hall, 1866



## CHAPTER II

### DUFFERIN: 1872-1878 THE EXTROVERT CURLER OF RIDEAU HALL

Canada's third Governor-General was considered to be one of the most popular and gifted ever to hold the office. Frederick Temple Hamilton-Temple Blackwood, the first Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, was born in Florence, Italy June 21st, 1826, the son of the Fourth Baron of Dufferin. The handsome, eloquent statesman, an Irish aristocrat, was appointed Governor-General in 1872. His self-image of "a representative of all that is august, stable and sedate in the country; incapable of partisanship and lifted far above the atmosphere of faction without adherents to reward or opponents to oust from office",<sup>1</sup> in many ways reflected his relationship with the Canadian people.

Shortly after his appointment, Dufferin traveled extensively throughout the country, initiating a tradition that became the status quo for his successors. Speeches given during his tours gave insight into his perception of Canadian qualities and values- a theme closely tied to the societies and clubs which he supported.

As Drummond Black later observed in 1903: "He was tactful, enthusiastic and capable... no governor was ever a greater social success and that after all has now become almost the chief thing".<sup>2</sup> The role of patron of the sports



in Canada was a crucial ingredient in Dufferin's package to the Canadian people. Interestingly, in his correspondence to Lorne, his successor, his comments concerning daily routine, each in one way or another related to sport, relaxation or leisure. Therefore, he must have felt that these activities were important. Dufferin believed that the Governor-General's involvement in various athletic and social endeavours would symbolically bring together many of the national interest groups, in addition to reinforcing the ties with England:

I have myself done something during the last six years towards consolidating the various elements of which the Canadian Community is composed as well as towards creating a more intimate union between the Colony and the Mother country...<sup>3</sup>

Part of this conscious effort to unite the country centered on sport. Dufferin used sport to increase his popularity with the people by supporting sports which were promoted by national interest groups. Closer examination reveals that not only did Dufferin give his official patronage to these sports, but also he became very actively involved in many of them.

One of these sports was curling which flourished during the latter part of the nineteenth century in Canada, particularly due to the involvement of Scots and their descendants of those who settled in Acadia and the Canadas.<sup>4</sup> A favourable



climate, formation of clubs and the advent of indoor rinks also contributed to the phenomenal development of the sport. The coming of the railways had a profound impact on the transformation of an agrarian pattern of games and pastimes into organized sports.<sup>5</sup> As Jobling stated:

It was not until the advent of the railway that the one-day excursion for inter-community sport became feasible and, in other ways as well this innovation in the field of transportation led to a spectacular rise in the amount of sporting activity.<sup>6</sup>

Curlers had special reason to be grateful for this technological advance, and to take advantage of it, since their heavy curling stones and brooms had to accompany them upon any journey for competition, a fact which often posed serious problems. In addition, the less expensive rail transport reduced expenses for clubs who wanted to travel by one route and return by another in order to play matches with different clubs.<sup>7</sup>

Undoubtedly, the sport of curling was a primary beneficiary of Canadian rail transport. During the term of Lord Dufferin a varied network of over five thousand miles of rail linked the major cities and towns of Ontario in particular, Quebec and the Maritimes.<sup>8</sup> With this increase came the opportunity for regular and often same-day competition. It was inevitable that curling clubs would become established



in every major Ontario city or town, with the greatest concentration of clubs in Southern Ontario where there was a relatively dense population of Scots.<sup>9</sup>

Another consistent feature which assisted the progress of curling was that of high-class patronage of the sport.<sup>10</sup> "Since the activities of influential people inevitably attracted much notice, the sport derived benefit from their association."<sup>11</sup> In particular, the vice-regal support of Governors-General, was a significant and lasting asset.<sup>12</sup> Kerr also contends:

There is no doubt that the progress of curling in Canada has been in great measure due to the almost continuous support received from the Governors-General of the Dominion.<sup>13</sup>

Several works outline the significant contribution of the Scots to curling in Canada, including Redmond,<sup>14</sup> Kerr,<sup>15</sup> Stevenson<sup>16</sup> and others. Cox points out that two significant events during the 1870's accelerated the development of curling in Canada.<sup>17</sup> Lord Dufferin was a central figure in both of these landmarks. The first was the presentation in 1874 of medals to every club in Canada by the Governor-General Lord Dufferin, for inter-club competition.<sup>18</sup> Later, Lord Dufferin also instituted the Governor-General's prize, which became one of Canada's most coveted curling trophies, and was first presented in 1880.<sup>19</sup>

...the prize is to be given for competition in the Canadian Branch of the Royal Caledonian Club and is awarded to the winning rink of the double rink competition to be presented at an annual reception at Government House.<sup>20</sup>



The second significant event, according to Cox, was the establishment of the Ontario Branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club in 1875 with headquarters in Toronto:

The choice of the Earl of Dufferin as the first Patron of the Branch was peculiarly appropriate as, during his tenure of office in Canada, his disinterested efforts to increase the popularity of curling by example and precept gave an invaluable stimulus to the game.<sup>21</sup>

Following the establishment of the Ontario Branch several newly formed Ontario curling clubs asked for the patronage of the Governor-General. One such request came from the Dufferin Curling Club, Toronto:

The club of which it speaks- the Dufferin Curling Club of Toronto was established the 30th of August 1877. Our great aim is to foster the game of curling among young curlers and especially among young Canadians. In fact, this is one of the restrictions we place upon application for admission. They must be Canadians by birth.<sup>22</sup>

While in office Dufferin performed many formal, public and ceremonial duties. Such official events often reinforced Dufferin's position as patron as they were organized by sporting clubs or organizations:

The opening of the Adelaide Street Rink next claimed the attention of the visitors. This covered rink was built by the Toronto Curling and Skating Club, and, taking advantage of the presence of the Earl and Countess of Dufferin in the city, the committee invited the distinguished visitors to formally open it.



Quite apart from his official support and patronage of curling, Dufferin took great interest in the many matches throughout Canada and "indulged in frequent bon-spiels himself, to the delight of other players of the 'roaring game', who recognized in Lord Dufferin a very keen curler indeed".<sup>24</sup> Much later, upon leaving Canada, Lord Dufferin was presented with an address by Colonel Dyde, President of the clubs of the Quebec province. It was expressive of their gratitude and esteem, accompanied with a picture of a Canadian curling match:

...portraying a thoroughly outdoor winter scene, with all the characteristics and surroundings of an exciting curling contest, and comprising also faithful portraits of many of Canada's keenest curlers and some of His Excellency's most attached friends.<sup>25</sup>

As an indication of his enthusiasm for the sport of curling, while in office, Dufferin requested that a curling rink be constructed at the vice-regal residence, Rideau Hall. It became a focal point for several clubs and indeed, the Vice-Regal Curling Club was very successful during Dufferin's tenure. Members of this club came mainly from His Excellency's suite. The opening of the curling rink was recorded in Lady Dufferin's diary:

D (Lord Dufferin) had a party of Scotchmen for curling and lunch (St. Andrew's Day) and we drank the Queen of Scotland's health. This was the opening of our new Curling Rink. It is quite close to the Skating Rink and the tobogganing hill is on the other side...<sup>26</sup>



Lady Dufferin's diary, entitled "My Canadian Journal", gives a colourful account of her experiences in Canada. There are various references to curling scattered through it. Her entry dated February 11, 1874 records:

I have been elected a member of the Rink, and am the only lady who holds that proud position, being also, I believe, the first wife of a Governor-General who has ever skated here.<sup>27</sup>

This account of the challenge for 'the horns' (club championship) is dated February 17, 1874:

There was a very exciting game in the curling rink between D (Lord Dufferin) and Mr. Gordon, a Presbyterian minister. They play for the Club Prize and whoever wins today has to play another member and so on till the last man remaining gains 'the horns'. This game was very close, 'twelve all', and the next shot must decide the winner. We all came in to watch the last strokes and D got two and so won and has a new antagonist to encounter.<sup>28</sup>

The next contest occurred on the 23rd and Lady Dufferin gives this account of it:

There was a very exciting curling match today between D and Hutchison for 'the horns'. D won by six points and will now have to encounter another player. The boys made some calculations afterwards in which they proved that each player had run eight miles, had thrown four and one-half tons forty yards and had swept out the Parliament Buildings- pretty severe labour for one game.<sup>29</sup>

On the following day she notes:

The 'Freds' - for we have no less than five of that name in our household- played a match, the winner to be the representative member of the new Vice-Regal Curling Club.<sup>30</sup>

The following entry, dated March 6th, indicates that Dufferin entertained politicians at the curling rink:



The Ottawa Curling Club came and played on our rink for His Excellency's medal. They made a good score and have hopes of winning it. Mr. Gilmour and Mr. Mackenzie spent the afternoon here and curled with D. The Premier brightened up very much during the 'roaring game'.<sup>31</sup>

March 10th dated this entry:

There was tremendous excitement in the curling rink today - D playing another opponent, Mr. Russell for 'the horns'. The game was very interesting. They had to make 21 points and five times during the course of the game they were tied, D winning finally by one - a very honourable and unexpected victory, as Mr. Russell is 'skip' of the Ottawa club.<sup>32</sup>

In order to qualify for either a Caledonian Club medal or the Governor-General's Prize, a simultaneous home and home series was played with the winner being decided by the total of the two scores. This account is given in an entry dated March 9, 1875:

A great curling match was played between our club and the Renfrew Club, for a medal presented by the Caledonian Club. Four of ours had to go to Renfrew and four of their men came here; so the winner could not be announced till the two games were over... The V.R.C.C. (Vice-Regal Curling Club) were at one time five behind-hand, but they finally won by one: and an hour later we hear by telegraph that at Renfrew they were tied, so we won the medal by the one shot. This is the first public match our club has playcd.<sup>33</sup>

Over the next two winters there were further entries in her diary abour curling and other sporting amusements:

December 29, 1875 - There was a great deal of curling today. In the morning a match between D.F. Ward, Russell, Stephenson, Mackenzie, Fred and Col. Littleton. We also drew for the match for my cup...<sup>34</sup>



January 11, 1876 - A very important curling match took place in our rink between the four Fredericks of the Vice-Regal Club and the four James' of the Rideau Club. Alas, the James' won by one. There was tobogganing and skating after lunch. A lovely day-about zero. <sup>35</sup>

January 12, 1876 - The married men of the Curling Club had a match against the single ones. The best bachelor was absent and 'little Campbell' (who is very short-sighted and never plays) took his place. He was a great element of amusement: for, in the first place, he made by accident two most beautiful shots, then he fell in front of a stone while he was sweeping, etc. The bachelors were beaten by 18 to 2. <sup>36</sup>

January 13, 1876 - The bachelors determined to try and regain their laurels today and marched in procession to the Rink. They were dressed in white blanket coats, wore kid gloves and orange flowers in their button holes. Their fate, however, was as sad as yesterday. <sup>37</sup>

March 22, 1876 - We went out, and saw the great curling match of the year, for His Excellency's medal. Montreal won it. The sixteen players had lunch with us. <sup>38</sup>

Toronto - January 12, 1877 - In the afternoon we went to the Curling and Skating Rink, where an address was read to which he replied in very happy terms. They presented him with curling stones and brooms, and me with a beautiful pair of skates. <sup>39</sup>

As a patron of the sport and an active participant, Dufferin demonstrated that curling, with its Scottish links, was a very valuable element of the growing Canadian social experience.

Not only was Dufferin anxious to promote sports that were associated with national interest groups, but also he endeavoured to support sports with British links.



During the latter half of the nineteenth century, English-speaking Canadians retained much of the ceremony and traditions of the "Old Country".<sup>40</sup> Cricket was only one popular game which was based largely on British sentiment.

Following a tradition set by Lord Monck, Lord Dufferin was actively involved in the Ottawa Cricket Club. During his term in office, a significant event promoted cricket in the Ottawa area. In 1872 an English touring side for the first time visited Ottawa, as previous trans-Atlantic cricketing ventures in 1859 and 1868 had by-passed the city.<sup>41</sup>

On August 6th, 1874, Mr. A.A. Scott, Secretary of the Sports Committee of the Ottawa Cricket Club wrote to Dufferin thanking him for his presentation of a medal to Ian Smith of the same club. In the letter he conveyed "the thanks of the Club for his kind liberality and also those of Mr. Smith, the fortunate winner who prizes it with not a letter but pardonable pride".<sup>42</sup>

On June 5th, 1878, the secretary of the Ottawa Cricket Club forwarded a letter to the Governor-General thanking him for "past kindnesses and patronage".<sup>43</sup>

However, lacrosse was vying with cricket for the title of the most popular summer Canadian sport. Prior to Dufferin's term of office, there was a remarkable increase in



the number of organized lacrosse teams in Canada.<sup>44</sup> So popular was the sport that in 1876, Dr. Beers, the founder of the lacrosse movement, organized a tour of the British Isles for a team from the Montreal club and another team of Caughnawaga Indians. Exhibition games were played in Belfast, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Manchester, Sheffield, Birmingham, Bristol and London.<sup>45</sup> In June of 1876 Dufferin received a telegramme from the Queen stating that "the Canadians and Indians played their game of lacrosse before me yesterday".<sup>46</sup> The trip was highly successful. Wherever games were played, great enthusiasm was aroused and this led to the widespread development of lacrosse in the British Isles.<sup>47</sup> Beers, himself, in accounting for the popularity of this game which was comparatively unknown until the previous few years stated:

It has raised a young manhood throughout the Dominion to active, healthy exercise; it has originated a popular feeling in favour of physical exercise and has perhaps, done more than anything else to invoke the sentiment of patriotism among young men in Canada; and if this sentiment is desirable abroad, surely it is at home.<sup>48</sup>

It was a natural outcome, therefore, for the Governor-General to be seen publicly as a supporter of this sport which not only was growing in popularity in Canada, but was also becoming widely acclaimed in Great Britain. In 1878 Lord Dufferin attended the inaugural match of the Thistle



Lacrosse Club, Quebec City, for the championship of Quebec. The invitation to attend was extended from Mr. Richardson secretary of that same club.<sup>49</sup>

Stewart gives this description of the celebration of the Queen's birthday in Montreal:

The Queen's birthday was celebrated in Montreal by a grand military display... The Vice-Regal party afterwards went to see the Lacrosse match between the Caughnawagas and Montreal Clubs, which was hotly contested and finally won by the Indians.<sup>50</sup>

The involvement and interest of the Vice-Regal couple in lacrosse is also mentioned in Lady Dufferin's journal:

October 10, 1872 - Having recovered from the fatigues of the Drawing room, I drove in the afternoon to see a lacrosse match. It is almost the national game here, and is a sort of ideal football. The ball is caught on a racket and thrown from one side to the other. It is very pretty and amusing to watch. The game was whites versus Indians.<sup>51</sup>

May 24, 1878 - We next... proceeded to the Lacrosse ground. D was there presented with an address and a 'crosse' and we saw two very pretty games.<sup>52</sup>

It is significant to note that other sports, generally thought to be linked with British sporting heritage, received the patronage of Lord Dufferin.

The first organized football club in Canada was the Montreal Football Club, formed in 1868.<sup>53</sup> The remaining decades in the nineteenth century, however, witnessed several complex rule interpretations as both Rugby Union Football ("rugger") and Association football ("soccer") were



challenged by the evolving Canadian Rugby Union Game-Canada's new game of football.<sup>54</sup> Lady Dufferin wrote the following entry in her journal during the traditional stay of the Vice-Regal couple in Quebec City at the Citadel:

A football match took place this afternoon. The Dufferin Club were dressed in blue-and-orange jerseys, caps and stockings; and the B-Battery (the Citadel soldiers) were red. Colonel Fletcher played on their side. The soldiers were somewhat rough and one gentleman had his nose broken. The Dufferin Club won.<sup>55</sup>

Unlike football, tennis was a sport in which Lord Dufferin became actively involved. In her journal entry of November 3rd, 1875 Lady Dufferin recorded that "the new tennis court has been begun. It is to serve the purpose of a supper-room as well."<sup>56</sup> In his letter to his successor, Lord Lorne, Lord Dufferin described the dual-purpose tennis court and supper-room and commented on a particular tennis match following a Saturday of entertainment for young men and ladies: "We played the regular tennis game with lawn tennis balls but without marking the chases, and you cannot imagine how good a game it was."<sup>57</sup>

The continued presence of military garrisons fostered interest in the sport of rifle shooting. In recognizing the importance of maintaining links with traditionally British sports, Lord Dufferin awarded four gold medals, twenty-two silver and seventeen bronze medals for shooting during his



term of office.<sup>58</sup>

The following letter dated July 27, 1874 was sent from Mr. A. Stuart, Secretary of the Dominion Rifle Association:

Sir: I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt this day of your letter July 25th accompanying three medals addressed to the men named in the margin, winners of His Excellency the Governor-General's Prizes at the late meeting of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association for 1873. The medals will be transmitted to the winners as requested.<sup>59</sup>

The following year, Lady Dufferin amusingly foreshadowed the acceptance of women as competitors in rifle matches with this entry in her journal:

We opened the Dominion Rifle Match, and I fired the first shot, and am said to have had a bull's eye which some people won't believe, in spite of my having received an engraved silver tablet in commemoration of the event.<sup>60</sup>

To this point it has been seen that the Governor-General supported sports which either directly or indirectly carried on British sporting traditions, and also in some way fostered sports which were promoted by national interest groups. A further theme to be developed is the selection of certain spectator sports which offered the opportunity of high visibility to a Governor-General anxious to see and be seen by the Canadian public.



The rise of spectatorism in the 1870's and 1880's was the combined effect of several contributing factors. Perhaps the most significant of these was the advent of an expanded railroad system. Prior to this era, the initial pioneer period was characterized by rigorous hardship. Diversionary recreational and social activities were carried on in relatively isolated areas.

However, the development of railroads fostered closer ties of communication among communities and both local needs and the development of the country were furthered by expanding the hinterland of the population core along the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Valley. Railways brought a revolution in the life of all the provinces- economically, politically and socially.<sup>61</sup>

One such economic outgrowth of the railways was the possibility of a wider distribution of products, which led in turn to the growth of larger factories in expanding urban areas. An altered distribution of population meant that more people worked regular hours and had longer periods of leisure time. The efforts of Saturday closing movements and supporters of early closing by-laws resulted in changes which allowed the working man to take part in regular weekly sports competition, either actively or as a spectator.<sup>62</sup>



A spectator sport which depended a great deal on the favour of railways was rowing, particularly since during the 1870's and 1880's Canada had a number of rowing heroes--notably Ned Hanlan. As world rowing champion, Hanlan was really this country's first great international sporting figure and part of his prominence "was due to the immense interest in rowing all over the English speaking world, with rowing regattas attracting huge crowds, heavy gambling and stimulating great public excitement".<sup>63</sup>

Hanlan, in particular, was a tremendous drawing card for thousands of spectators many of whom took advantage of special fares and rates offered by the railroads. Riding on the crest of this popularity, Lord Dufferin offered several medals to rowing championships being sponsored by clubs in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes.<sup>64, 65</sup>

In 1873 the Vice-Regal family witnessed a regatta which was organized in their honour by the Toronto Rowing Club.<sup>66</sup> In 1875, Hanlan won a medal offered by the Governor-General in a two mile race at Toronto defeating Louden and James Douglas.<sup>67</sup>

Earlier in his term of office, Lord Dufferin was so highly gratified with a rowing exhibition in the St. John harbour that he offered a gold medal to be rowed for on some future occasion. In commenting on Dufferin's interest in



the sport of rowing, Stewart stated:

...in his earlier days, he had been interested in boating contests, and although he could not claim to have gained excellence in the use of the oar, still he had an eye for a good stroke, and he had never seen any which he admired more than the stroke of the men who had earned for themselves the title of the "Paris Crew".<sup>68</sup>

Lady Dufferin again gave insight into the sporting interest activities of her husband by stating "D. again went to the regatta and to give away the medals won".<sup>69</sup>

Unquestionably, with the introduction of the steamboat and railway, rowing became a great nineteenth century spectator sport. Efficient transportation to the water's edge and the steamboat enabled spectators to take to the water and follow the race from start to finish. The rising popularity of the sport, in large measure due to the international success of Canadian rowers of the time, more than gave justification for vice-regal patronage. The relationship between the sport and the office of the Governor-General was a symbiotic one. Awards and medals offered by Lord Dufferin increase spectator interest in the sport of rowing and it became advantageous to the Governor-General to be seen by the public as an active proponent of the popular sport in both national and international competition.



In order to understand the unique appeal of Canadian winter sports it is helpful to become familiar with the 'Northern theme'. Canadian climate and geography continued to influence the selection of games and sports and their subsequent development. Such sports played a very important role in the social life of the occupants of Rideau Hall.

A recurrent theme in Canadian nationalist thought which was prevalent in the half-century following confederation was "the idea that Canada's unique character was derived from her northern location, her severe winters and her heritage of "northern races".<sup>70</sup> Phrases such as "Canada- A young giant nation of the north" with her "hardy northern race" coping with the rigors of "stern latitudes" denote images of not merely geographical location or climatic condition but the combination of both moulding character.<sup>71</sup> In the north "the race is compelled by nature to maintain its robust attributes, whereas in more sunny countries like Africa and Australia the tendency of the climate is toward deterioration."<sup>72</sup>

Other writers of the same period put forth the Canadian climate as a dynamic element of national greatness. George Parkin, Principal of Upper Canada College in the 1890's called the Canadian climate "one of our greatest blessings".<sup>73</sup> Haliburton and Tuttle related climatic to racial determinism and contended that a number of desirable national characteristics were derived from Canada's northern location.<sup>74</sup>



William Hales Hingston further developed this theme by stating "not only was the Canadian winter conducive to mental improvement: in maintaining physical health and stimulating robustness, it was unsurpassed".<sup>75</sup> He ascertained that "there are no diseases indigenous to the country"; the climate was most "favourable to the highest development of a hardy, long-lived, intelligent people", and the tendency "is unmistakably in favour of increased muscular development".<sup>76</sup> The overall theme of Hingston's work was that the northern location would breed a distinctive, superior and healthy people.

The northern theme was very much in the forefront in literary and intellectual thought during the latter half of the nineteenth century. However modern historians contend that such thinking must be regarded as a myth because "the observations it exalted conflict with objective appraisal".<sup>77</sup> and "it tended to identify the whole country with that region of it which contained the fewest of her people".<sup>78</sup> The northern theme also assumed a racist aspect, holding that the capacity for freedom and progress were inherent in the blood of northern races.<sup>79</sup>

However myths, legends and symbols had a very important role to play in the historical record since confederation. Although the passage of time has undermined its objective



reality, the northern theme perhaps contributed more to the perspective held by Canadians than did the impact of political decisions. That is to say, their environment in a very real way governed activities and pastimes and it was this perception of the environment that influenced the selection of games and activities and their subsequent development.

Lord Dufferin subscribed to the belief of the time that the harsh Canadian climate was an invigorating influence: "A constitution nursed upon the oxygen of our bright winter atmosphere," exclaimed the Governor-General, "makes its owner feel as though he could toss about the pine trees in glee".<sup>80</sup>

The rigours of the Canadian winter climate offered countless opportunities for participants to engage in novel and invigorating activities, and was "the season of all others in which the settlers both old and young, of both sexes, and of all classes, most enjoyed themselves".<sup>81</sup> Skating, tobogganing, sleighing, snowshoeing and skiing presented alternatives to hibernating away the long winter months. Many of these winter activities were undoubtedly a means to survival in earlier years. However, with the passage of time, it became possible to pursue these activities as recreational endeavours.



Snowshoeing was one such activity which at one time was a necessity for survival for hunters and trappers. The sport was adopted from the Indians who often ran snowshoe races as sports spectacles.<sup>82</sup> On March 8th, 1873, the first Ottawa Snowshoe carnival was held with Governor-General Dufferin presenting a gold medal to the winner. The race was open to amateurs who were members of regularly organized Snow Shoe Clubs.<sup>83</sup> In January of that same year the first Montreal Snowshoe Carnival was held in honour of Governor-General Dufferin. In her diary, Lady Dufferin described the torchlight procession across Mount Royal:

They wore white blanket coats, tight leggings and red caps, and the sight really was very picturesque and very Canadian: the bright night, the snow covered ground, hundreds of sleighs and thousands of tinkling bells, the torches and the gaiety of the whole scene were delightful.<sup>84</sup>

Elsewhere in another entry she described her own experience on snowshoes: "One's foot looks like a dot in the center of a large racket, and I expected to trip on my own shoes; but I found it quite easy to walk with them, and very amusing."<sup>85</sup>

Lord Dufferin's interest in the pastimes peculiar to Canadian life led him to support skating, probably the most popular of winter sports during this period. Between 1873



and 1876, he awarded four gold medals and three silver medals.<sup>86</sup>

Skating rinks were centres of social activity with fancy dress parties and carnivals often highlighting winter carnivals.<sup>87</sup> Both the Victoria Skating Rink, Montreal, and the Ottawa Skating Rink extended invitations to Their Excellencies to attend several types of entertainment including: Fancy Dress Carnivals, Races and Games or the Tournament (for medals annually presented by Their Excellencies).<sup>88</sup>

At a Fancy Dress party given at the Victoria Skating Rink, the arrival of Their Excellencies signalled a series of quadrilles and waltzes by costumed skaters. Lord Dufferin took an active part in the masquerade, and was dressed in costume. No less than three thousand persons were present.<sup>89</sup>

Skating parties were a traditional form of entertainment initiated by Lord and Lady Dufferin, at Rideau Hall. In his letter of orientation to Lord Lorne, Lord Dufferin stated:

For the entertainment of the young men and girls we made the following arrangement. Every Saturday, Lady Dufferin gave what she called a skating party when all the young people came about three in the afternoon and spent a couple of hours skating and tobogganning, after which we turned them into the ball room with a piano where they danced for a couple of hours more.



By this means we gave them what they liked best of anything- lots of dancing without occasioning them expense for ball-dresses and without any cost to themselves.<sup>90</sup>

Races and games in the Ottawa and Montreal rinks included barrel jumping, backward and girls' and boys' races all on skates with prizes being awarded.<sup>91</sup>

Skating tournaments drew competitors from considerable distances. At these tournaments skating was usually very skilful and the Vice-Regal party exhibited great interest in the proceedings. The awarding of the Governor-General's medals was usually accompanied by an address.<sup>92</sup>

Competition for prizes offered by the Governor-General was very keen. Lady Dufferin related this story in her journal of the champion lady skater from Quebec. Supposedly she was told not to return to her ancient city if she did not win the locket which Lord Dufferin had offered as the prize.<sup>93</sup> Unfortunately, the records indicate that it must have been a very long trip back home for the young lady!

The personal interest of Lord and Lady Dufferin in skating was well known. An American skater, E.H. Fisher of New York, wrote to Lord Dufferin proposing that he be paid seventy-five dollars per week to skate before His Excellency and for the privilege of teaching. He stated that he could "write any name on the ice, draw stars, swans, eagles



and last, but by no means least attempt a foot drawing of your Lordship's celebrated yacht 'The Countess of Dufferin' under full sail".<sup>94</sup> There is no evidence to indicate that the young Mr. Fisher was given the opportunity.

Lady Dufferin recorded in her diary that daily skating practice continued both on the Ottawa River<sup>95</sup> and on the rink at Rideau Hall.<sup>96</sup> The Dufferins were responsible for personally contributing money toward the improvement of this winter sport facility.<sup>97</sup>

While on vacation in Dublin, Ireland, Lord Dufferin was able to skate for several hours daily. "My accomplishments on the ice astonished the natives! There are a good many people who can skate very well having learnt upon wheels, but they move with a jerk and are inferior artists."<sup>98</sup>

The Vice-Regal couple's interest in the sport of skating was recognized during a visit to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia where they were presented with a walnut case containing two lovely pairs of Acme skates.<sup>99</sup>

Tobogganing was a winter recreational activity which Lord Dufferin pursued with great pleasure. Stewart refers to a special expedition to Montmorenci where, "sixty sleighs flew over the crisp snow at a rattling pace."<sup>100</sup> The sleighs made the descent of the 'cork-screw' - the zig-zag and tortuous road leading to the base of the falls. Those desirous of making the descent of 'the Cone', a hundred



foot high mound of ice formed by the constant freezing of the spray, hurled themselves on toboggans or hand sleighs. On this occasion, it was recorded that "the spray from the Falls was quite heavy, and both the Earl and the other gentlemen who joined him were very soon drenched with the chilling water."<sup>101</sup>

Lord Dufferin enjoyed tobogganing to such an extent that he had an addition built to the natural hill at Rideau Hall to increase the length and height of the run. Lady Dufferin commented on the improved facility:

A long flight of stairs now leads to the top of a high wooden slide and, as this is almost perpendicular, the toboggan starts at a rapid rate down it and its occupant has both the length and the excitement of the slide greatly increased.<sup>102</sup>

Informal tobogganing parties were frequently hosted at Rideau Hall and children especially delighted in the descent of the hill "in every sort of way, double and singly, standing, sitting and lying."<sup>103</sup>

Winter activities such as tobogganing, skating and curling were "more than sufficient to fill up the time one could give to exercise"<sup>104</sup> and as Lord Dufferin, himself, suggested, "... it is very lucky that this should be the case, for otherwise one's life would have proved intolerably dull".<sup>105</sup>

Lord Dufferin's contribution to the sequential development of Canadian sport was indeed significant.



He generously bestowed his vice-regal patronage on sports which benefitted from the association. Lord Dufferin was active and enthusiastic and during his term of office he endeavoured to travel extensively. As a result, he was popular with most elements of Canadian society and this was reflected in the sports which he supported. Not only did he subscribe to the retention of British sporting links in Canada, but also he recognized the importance of establishing a hearty and robust Canadian identity by fostering the growth of relatively unique sporting activities.

Certain fundamental realities of the time cannot be ignored, as the influence of such factors of urbanization, growth of the railways and the concurrent rationalization and organization of certain sports gave rise to spectatorism. This in turn presented a public forum to the Canadian people. As a politician, the Governor-General wisely took advantage of these high profile situations and his presence at sporting activities where large crowds gathered was logical, indeed.

Lord Dufferin initiated a trend toward medal presentation, a significant and lasting measure of support of Canadian sport. In 1873, soon after taking office as



Governor-General, Lord Dufferin had a medal struck by the celebrated engravers and medallists, the Wyons, to commemorate his vice-regalty. However, in 1875, the medal which apparently was originally intended for other purposes became the prototype of vice-regal recognition and encouragement of scholarly and athletic distinction. This tradition has continued ever since.

The bequest to the substance of Canadian sport history by Lord Dufferin has been significant and lasting. However, in many ways, his outstanding contribution was the tradition which he established as part of the expectations of office. Vice-regal patronage of Canadian sport would become customary practice for his successors in office.





Plate 3 1st Marquis of Dufferin and Ava  
Canada's Third Governor-General





Plate 4      Lord Dufferin and Party Curling at  
Rideau Hall 1872 - 1878



Plate 5      The Canadian Lacrosse Team in England  
Canadian Illustrated News  
24 June 1876



<sup>1</sup> Speeches of the Earl of Dufferin (Ottawa), 12 January, 1877.

<sup>2</sup> Charles E. Drummond Black, The Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, (London: Hutchison and Company, 1903) p.

<sup>3</sup> Correspondence from Lord Dufferin to Lord Lorne, Quebec, 12 August 1878, (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 I B4 A-716) p. 304.

<sup>4</sup> Gerald Redmond, "The Scots and Sport in Nineteenth Century Canada" (Ph. D. dissertation, University of Alberta, 1972) p. 162.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid. pp. 138-144.

<sup>6</sup> Ian Jobling, "Sport in Nineteenth Century Canada: The Effects of Technological Changes on its Development" Ph.D. dissertation, University of Alberta, 1970), p. 27.

<sup>7</sup> Redmond, op. cit., p. 146.

<sup>8</sup> Report of the Royal Commission on Railways (Ottawa: Maclean, Roger and Company, 1888) cited by Mary McLaughlin, "Railway Transportation and Sport in Ontario During the Nineteenth Century", (Unpublished paper, 1977), p. 3.

<sup>9</sup> John A. Stevenson, Curling in Ontario 1846-1946, (Toronto: Ontario Curling Association, 1950), p. 253.

<sup>10</sup> Redmond, op. cit., p. 144.

<sup>11</sup> Redmond, loc. cit.,

<sup>12</sup> Redmond, loc. cit.,

<sup>13</sup> Rev. John Kerr, Curling in Canada and the United States, (Edinburgh: G. A. Morton, 1904), p.

<sup>14</sup> Gerald Redmond, "The Scots and Sport in Nineteenth Century Canada" (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Alberta, 1972)



<sup>15</sup>Kerr, op. cit.,

<sup>16</sup>John A. Stevenson, Curling in Ontario 1846-1946, (Toronto: Ontario Curling Association, 1950)

<sup>17</sup>A. E. Cox, "A History of Sports in Canada, 1868-1900" (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Alberta, 1969) p. 216.

<sup>18</sup>Cox, loc. cit.,

<sup>19</sup>Redmond, op. cit., p. 227.

<sup>20</sup>Governor-General's Curling Trophy, (Ottawa: Public Archives, RG7 G20, Public Records)

<sup>21</sup>Stevenson, op. cit., p. 40.

<sup>22</sup>Correspondence of Lord Dufferin, (Ottawa: Public Archives, RG7 G20 Number 5281, Public Records)

<sup>23</sup>George Stewart, Canada Under the Administration of the Earl of Dufferin, (Toronto: Rose-Belford Publishing Company, 1878) p. 500.

<sup>24</sup>Ibid., p. 417.

<sup>25</sup>Kerr, op. cit., p. 150.

<sup>26</sup>Lady Dufferin, My Canadian Journal, (London: John Murray, 1891), p. 134.

<sup>27</sup>Ibid., p. 144.

<sup>28</sup>Ibid., p. 145.

<sup>29</sup>Ibid., p. 146.

<sup>30</sup>Loc. cit.

<sup>31</sup>Ibid., p. 147.

<sup>32</sup>Ibid., p. 148.



33 Ibid., p. 230.

34 Ibid., 219.

35 Ibid.,

36 Ibid., pp. 219-20.

37 Ibid., p. 220.

38 Ibid., p. 223

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41 Ottawa Cricket, 1840-1960, (Ottawa: Public Archives, Manuscript Group 31 H 21), p. 1.

42 Letter to Lord Dufferin, (Ottawa: Public Archives, RG7 G18, Vol. 72, Public Records)

43 Letter to Lord Dufferin, (Ottawa: Public Archives, RG7, g18, Vol. 32B, Public Records)

44 Howell and Howell, op. cit., p. 70.

45 Ibid.

46 Correspondence of Lord Dufferin, (Ottawa: Public Archives, RG7 G13, Volume 12F, Public Records)

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48 William G. Beers, Lacrosse: The National Game of Canada, (Montreal: Dawson Brothers, 1869), p. 59.

49 Correspondence of Lord Dufferin, (Ottawa: Public Archives, RG7 G14, Volume 32E, Public Records)



50 George Stewart, op. cit., p. 603.

51 Lady Dufferin, op. cit., p. 42.

52 Ibid., p. 416.

53 Howell and Howell, op. cit., p. 77.

54 Ibid., p. 80.

55 Lady Dufferin, op. cit., p. 147.

56 Ibid., p. 236.

57 Letter from Lord Dufferin to Lord Lorne, (Ottawa: Public Archives, Manuscript Group 27 I B4, Microfilm Reel A-716:304-314)

58 Stewart, op. cit., p. 690.

59 Correspondence of Lord Dufferin, (Ottawa: Public Archives, RG7 MGI8, Volume 72, Public Records)

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61 C. P. de T. Glazebrook, A History of Transportation in Canada, Volume II, (Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1964), p. 187.

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64 Stewart, op. cit., appendix.

65 Cox, op. cit., p. 300.

66 Stewart, op. cit., p. 45.

67 Cox, op. cit.



<sup>68</sup> Stewart, Ibid., p. 267.

<sup>69</sup> Lady Dufferin, op. cit., p. 243.

<sup>70</sup> Carl Berger, "The True North Strong and Free," Nationalism in Canada, ed. Peter Russell, (Toronto: McGraw Hill Company of Canada Limited, 1966), p. 6.

<sup>71</sup> Ibid., p. 5.

<sup>72</sup> loc. cit.

<sup>73</sup> Berger, op. cit., p.10.

<sup>74</sup> Berger, op. cit. p. 12-14

<sup>75</sup> Ibid., p. 11

<sup>76</sup> Ibid., p. 11.

<sup>77</sup> Ibid., p. 22.

<sup>78</sup> loc. cit.

<sup>79</sup> loc. cit.

<sup>80</sup> William Leggo, History of the Administration of the Earl of Dufferin in Canada, (Montreal: Lovell Printing and Publishing Company, 1878), p. 599.

<sup>81</sup> Henry J. Philpot, Guide Book to the Canadian Dominion, (London: Edward Stanford, 1871), pp. 63-64, cited by Nancy Howell and Maxwell Howell, Sports and Games in Canadian Life: 1700 to Present, (Toronto: MacMillan of Canada, 1968) p. 107.

<sup>82</sup> Barbara Schrodt, Gerald Redmond and Richard Baka, Sport Canadiana, (Edmonton: Executive Sport Publications Limited, 1980), p. 175.



<sup>83</sup> Records of Post-Confederation Corporate Bodies (Athletic Associations), (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG 28 I 128 Vol. 14), p. 17.

<sup>84</sup> Lady Dufferin, op. cit., p. 62.

<sup>85</sup> Ibid., p. 52.

<sup>86</sup> Stewart, op. cit., appendix

<sup>87</sup> Howell and Howell, op. cit., p. 104.

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<sup>89</sup> Stewart, op. cit., p. 113.

<sup>90</sup> Letter from Lord Dufferin to Lord Lorne, (Ottawa: Public Archives, Manuscript Group 27 I B4, Microfilm Reel A-716: 304-314)

<sup>91</sup> Lady Dufferin, op. cit., pp. 62-63.

<sup>92</sup> Stewart, loc. cit.

<sup>93</sup> Lady Dufferin, op. cit., p. 69.

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<sup>95</sup> Lady Dufferin, op. cit., p. 134.

<sup>96</sup> Ibid., p. 56.

<sup>97</sup> R. H. Hubbard, Rideau Hall, (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1967), appendix.

<sup>98</sup> Manuscripts of Political Figures- Governors-General, (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 I J11)

<sup>99</sup> Lady Dufferin, op. cit., p. 27.

<sup>100</sup> Stewart, op. cit., p. 90.



<sup>101</sup> Stewart, op. cit., p. 91.

<sup>102</sup> Lady Dufferin, op. cit., p. 228.

<sup>103</sup> Ibid., p. 303.

<sup>104</sup> Letter from Lord Dufferin to Lord Lorne, loc. cit.

<sup>105</sup> Ibid.,



## CHAPTER III

### LORNE: 1878-1883

#### A VICE-REGAL SPORTSMAN

In a letter to his successor, Lord Dufferin foreshadowed the popularity and personal appeal that the Marquis of Lorne would have with the people of Canada:

... Your personal talents and acquirements combined with the delight and enthusiasm evoked by the presence of the Princess will enable you to give a lift to Canada which half of a century of ordinary Governors-General might fail to communicate.<sup>1</sup>

Canada's fourth Governor-General, John Douglas Sutherland Campbell, Marquis of Lorne, certainly proved himself to be a commendable appointment. In 1878, at the age of thirty-three, he began his term of office. There was speculation in some circles that because the Marquis was married to Princess Louise, youngest daughter of Queen Victoria, Rideau Hall would lose some of the casual informality which had become such a hallmark. This was not the case, however. "The princess... was as informal and friendly as her husband. They fished and played outdoor games, entertained informally and kept formality to the essential minimum."<sup>2</sup>

In 1881 the Marquis undertook a tour from Nova Scotia to Alberta. Over the distance he delivered many speeches



and demonstrated a warm and sincere personality to the Canadian people:

To succeed Lord Dufferin was in itself a trial but the Marquis of Lorne has shown that he possesses not merely a happy faculty of expression and an unfailing fund of good humour, but an intense desire to make himself acquainted with the country and its interests and to do his duty in promoting Canadian prosperity.<sup>3</sup>

It was therefore consistent and logical that the Marquis of Lorne would be both an active supporter and patron of several sporting activities.

The Marquis of Lorne was a Scot, son and heir of the eighth Duke of Argyll, head of the Campbell clan,<sup>4</sup> and he took both an official and personal interest in the game of curling. This Vice-Regal interest in the sport had been fostered by his predecessor, Lord Dufferin. The Marquis had become a reasonably proficient curler during his youth in Inverary, Scotland, and "soon after his arrival in Canada he gave practical proof of his interest in the game by offering a Silver Cup".<sup>5</sup>

A circular dated February 1st, 1879, was sent to every club, and stated:

His Excellency the Governor-General, the Marquis of Lorne, taking a lively interest in the game of curling has decided to give annually during the time he remains in Canada, a Silver Cup to be played for all the regularly organized Curling Clubs of the Dominion who desire to enter into the competition.<sup>6</sup>



Stevenson noted, however, that only a few of the fifty-seven clubs of the Ontario Branch entered the competition. While deeply appreciating His Excellency's interest in curling, most members held that they had no chance of defeating rinks playing with irons, whose matches were always played under covered rinks. Most Ontario rinks played with stones and played their point matches on "virgin" ice, apart from their practice sheets.<sup>7</sup>

Following negotiations with the Canadian Branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, it was decided that two Silver Cups would be presented by the Marquis of Lorne, one for iron-playing and one for stone-playing clubs of Canada. These Silver Cups were first presented in 1881 following the presentation of Lord Dufferin's prize in 1880.<sup>8</sup>

Also, silver medals were presented by His Excellency, to be competed for by the individual members of the clubs winning the Silver Cups.<sup>9</sup>

A survey of some returns indicated that a broad expanse of the Dominion was represented, as some of the clubs included the Manitoba Curling Club, Halifax Curling Club, Ottawa Curling Club, Quebec Curling Club, Arnprior Curling Club, Toronto, Curling Club, Bowmanville Curling Club,



Caledonian Curling Club of Toronto, Orillia Curling Club, Cobourg Curling Club, and the Pembroke Curling Club.

These were the clubs which returned some of the highest scores.<sup>10</sup>

However, the Bluenose Curling Club of New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, was the most successful club in the early years of the competition:

...Eight selected members of each club competed on their own ice, the game being one of points. The two clubs with the highest average scores for their players came to Ottawa to meet on the Governor-General's rink to play for the prize...<sup>11</sup>

The Bluenose Club journeyed 1,550 miles each way and won the cup four years in succession- an early Canadian dynasty in the roaring game!<sup>12</sup>

The Governor-General was proud of the curling facilities at Rideau Hall and the accomplishments of the Vice-Regal Curling Club:

We have a capital curling rink here, and my club, the Vice-Regal, is able to hold its own against all comers...<sup>13</sup>

On January 30th, 1880, the Halifax Curling Club was honoured by a visit from the Marquis of Lorne who was in the city to meet Princess Louise (the Marchioness of Lorne) on her return from England.<sup>14</sup> A rink, skipped by His Excellency, played against a rink of Halifax veterans with the Halifax rink winning by a margin of one point.<sup>15</sup>



"The spectators were deeply interested in the games and noticed that His Excellency was a skilled and careful player."<sup>16</sup> Later that year, the Governor-General was commended again for his fine play. "He (Major de Winton, Private Secretary to the Marquis of Lorne) is the best curler in the Dominion bar one, that being His Excellency the Governor-General."<sup>17</sup>

Many Canadians in curling circles were anxious to host a Scottish curling team, and had been for years. Curling in Canada had undergone dramatic changes and students of the game felt that the time had come to be given an opportunity to test their skills against the world's best. "As time went by, and curling became more and more established in Canada, their invitations to Scotland became more challenging, more personal, and more urgent."<sup>18</sup>

On leaving Canada, the Marquis of Lorne and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, promised the curlers that they would do whatever they possibly could to bring about a visit from a Scottish team.<sup>19</sup> They were not to have immediate success in gaining a commitment from a Scottish club; however, the way was paved for a later visit during Lord Minto's term of office.



Although various benevolent and fraternal societies held field days in conjunction with their annual picnics, one of the first organizations to stage track and field events on a regular basis and to promote them into national and even international events were the Caledonian Societies of Canada and the United States. Traditional "Highland Games" were re-enacted in North America under their auspices and the consequent influence on the organization and development of track and field athletics was significant.<sup>20</sup> His Excellency, the Marquis of Lorne was Honorary Patron of the Montreal Caledonian Society during his term of office. The 1880 programme lists the ethnic character of events with Highland costume being a focal ingredient.<sup>21</sup> Some of the events included 'throwing the hammer', 'putting the stone', 'tossing the caber', 'long jump', 'races', and 'Highland dancing (in costume)'.<sup>22</sup>

With competition from the national sport of lacrosse and the game of baseball which had acquired a pervasive element of professionalism, interest in the British-linked sport of cricket waned in Canada. During Lord Lorne's term of office the game had very few active supporters. However the sport would see a new thrust in popularity during the late 1880's:

Cricket, the game of our forefathers is now not played by many Canadians, and it would not prevail even to the extent it does, but there are in every



community a few Englishmen, who, instilled with the unquenchable love for the bat and ball, gather around them some others and form a club.<sup>23</sup>

The Ottawa Valley Cricket Council was instrumental in organizing cricket in the capital city area. Rideau Hall hosted several matches of significance during Lord Lorne's term of office. In 1879 Ottawa was the host city for the Canada versus United States match, an encounter which, with interruptions, was an annual fixture from 1844 until 1921.<sup>24</sup> In 1880 Mr. A. Browning of Montreal made 204 at Rideau Hall, then the highest individual score in Canadian cricket. In 1882 the Winnipeg Cricket team visited Ottawa.<sup>25</sup> Lord Lorne took a keen interest in the game and occasionally played himself. In a letter to his father dated April 30th, 1879 he stated:

We are to have a first cricket match on Saturday and I am to command an eleven of senators and M.P.'s and be as autocratic as I choose for the day!<sup>26</sup>

The British sport of lawn tennis was particularly popular in the Ottawa area where "at the end of the 1881 season, several tennis playing members of the cricket club broke away, strictly as a matter of convenience, and established a club for tennis only, naming it the Ottawa Lawn Tennis Club".<sup>27</sup>



The Club was officially opened on June 16th, 1882, and a report in the Ottawa Daily Citizen of June 17th, 1882 reads in part:

...His Excellency, the Governor-General graciously consented to become patron of the club, while the offices of President and Vice-presidents were accepted by the Hon. A. P. Caron Lt. Col. Maunsell and Lt. Col. Bacon respectively... Through the kindness of the President, the club was allowed to use the Drill Hall to play in during the winter and, owing to the facilities for play thus afforded, His Excellency the Governor-General when offering prizes for a ladies' tournament, open to the Dominion, requested that they should be competed for under the auspices of the Ottawa Lawn Tennis Club.<sup>28</sup>

One year prior to the new location of the club, an invitation was sent to ladies of Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal and Quebec and other cities to compete for "a set of six pieces presented by His Excellency the Governor-General".<sup>29</sup>

The reference above to the club's use of the Drill Hall for winter tennis, makes understandable this item taken from The Official Record of the Province of Quebec Lawn Tennis Association: "In 1883, Miss G. Low of Montreal took the second prize at a tournament held in the Drill Hall, Ottawa, for prizes offered by the Governor-General".<sup>30</sup>

Throughout his term of office the Marquis of Lorne was an active supporter of the Dominion Rifle Association:

Both he and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise had taken a great personal interest in the matter and they had also succeeded in interesting the banking and manufacturing interests in the country in the matches.<sup>31</sup>



In 1883 the Governor-General donated more prize money "to try to encourage the distant provinces to send men to the central and national meetings".<sup>32</sup> His Excellency believed that "Ontario and Quebec teams would always be strong and a special attraction would be offered to members who come from afar".<sup>33</sup> A prize of one hundred dollars was offered only to members of the British Columbia, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island Militias. Each one hundred dollars was to be divided into three prizes for the best individual scores.<sup>34</sup>

Concerning the worth and value of national and international rifle shooting, His Excellency concluded in an address that:

... the association should be recognized as an important adjunct to the means of our country's defence, and as such obtain sufficient support to send annually a representation of Canada's defensive force to England, as well as provide a respectable prize list for the annual competition in Ottawa, such as would encourage riflemen from the most distant parts of the Dominion to come here as competitors.<sup>35</sup>

Such was the prestige associated with a Dominion Rifle Shooting Victory, that an imposing awards ceremony was instituted in the senate chamber. In a letter to his brother, Lord Archibald, the Marquis of Lorne reported:



The hall was filled, and we had men from every province of the Dominion, fine soldierly fellows, very well dressed - some men from Manitoba being particularly good looking strapping fellows.<sup>36</sup>

Cox suggests that with high proportions of British stock in the population, the importation of cricket, curling and other British-linked sports was merely a matter of course.<sup>37</sup> Although these sports were organized before Confederation, transportation difficulties were only now being overcome with the widespread use of steamship and railway travel. It would also be natural for the Queen's representative in Canada to become involved both personally and officially in sports of British origin. This claim could only be supported when one looks at the aristocratic schooling and early social and sporting experiences of the Governors-General, in this case, the Marquis of Lorne. In his collective profile of Canada's Governors-General 1867-1952, Kirk-Greene concludes that "it is birth, breeding and background that emerge as the prime determinants of values accepted, attitudes adopted, decisions taken and impressions given".<sup>38</sup>

A second grouping of sports was becoming more and more significant during the latter half of the nineteenth century. Despite the lingering interest in sports and games of British origin "a considerable change in the social atmosphere during this period"<sup>39</sup> was emerging. A Canadian



identity was beginning to assert itself. Harsh winters and rugged terrain delineated the pattern of development of games, pastimes and social activities for many active Canadians.

Skating and tobogganing were popular for Canadians from all walks of life, and winter activities were a particularly popular form of entertainment for the Vice-Regal couple.

Often, several activities would be enjoyed during their 'snow parties'. Judges of the Supreme Court and elderly senators would resort to the curling rink, dividing themselves into teams of Scots and Irish to contend in national rivalries.<sup>40</sup> On the skating rink were the younger set, attired in the white blanket coats which had just come into fashion. Despite his youth and keenness, His Excellency found skating to be too difficult. "Dressed in a blue blanket boat à la Bas Canada, he would throw himself into the sport with abandon and welcome his guests without the formality of introductions."<sup>41</sup>

Lord Lorne, enjoyed the pastime of tobogganing as much as his predecessor, Lord Dufferin, including it in his repertoire of social activities. This description was given in the Ottawa Citizen:



...!On New Year's Night, observed the Marquis, 'we had some capital sport here. It was a vivid scene. I had the headlight of a locomotive here and all along down there (beside the stairway) there were Chinese lanterns'.<sup>42</sup>

In letters to his family, Lord Lorne, describes the memorable sight of a gigantic Montreal Ice Carnival "where skaters in costume were gliding about in an immense hall, beautifully draped with flags and lit by electric light".<sup>43</sup> He also describes the pleasure of tobogganing at Montmorenci Falls as being "enhanced by the fact that one might get a bad fall and that one has come safely through".<sup>44</sup>

A significant sporting activity in the emergence of a nineteenth-century Canadian sporting identity was lacrosse. His Excellency, Lord Lorne was keenly interested in the game and assisted in the arrangement for one of the significant milestones in the sport's history. In an effort to popularize lacrosse abroad, a team captained by W. G. Beers and an Indian team toured the British Isles. Before departure, Dr. Beers indicated that the Canadian team "will be perhaps the most active immigration agents the Dominion Government ever had and while carrying out the Lacrosse scheme will each personally assist in every honourable effort to make Canada better known and appreciated in the Old Country."<sup>45</sup> Special editions of the Canadian Illustrated News, well-illustrated and emphasizing the opportunities presented in Manitoba and the



North-West were distributed freely to each and every spectator entering the grounds.<sup>46</sup> The Canadian contingent was warmly received and in contrast to the 1876 tour, large crowds witnessed the play in most centers. The tour was highly successful with games being played in Belfast, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle-on-Tyne and Hurlington-Richmond. Her Majesty, Queen Victoria witnessed a special game.<sup>47</sup>

Earlier reference to Lord Lorne as a keen participant was made in the context of Canadian winter activities. His Excellency was also a keen sportsman and availed himself of every opportunity to engage in fishing and hunting:

...Expeditions took him to the Grand Cascapedia which he described as the most beautiful of the rivers he had seen. His patronage and that of his successors established the reputation of the stream as the queen of all Canadian salmon fisheries with the record for the heaviest average weight of fish.<sup>48</sup>

Sport salmon fishing would have been an expensive proposition, for according to the game laws, portions of the river were leased - the price corresponding to the average catch. The Emigrant and Sportsman in Canada offers an interesting insight into sporting adventures and observations on forests and fauna.<sup>49</sup> In his assessment of the Cascapedia, Rowan stated that: "Salmon average twenty-three pounds, and every season mighty monsters of the deep are hooked by anglers... The Cascapedia is leased for \$600. per annum.<sup>50</sup>



Fishing expeditions each summer gave His Excellency an opportunity to escape from the rigours of a demanding social schedule and appreciate a more serene aspect of the Canadian sporting life.

Rowan credited duck hunting as being the best sport in Canada West (Ontario) with "its great charm being the many varieties of birds".<sup>51</sup> Apparently, Lord Lorne was as skilful a hunter as he was an angler. A Kingston Whig account of a duck-hunting expedition at Long point, Lake Erie credited His Excellency with bagging one hundred and fifteen ducks.<sup>52</sup>

During his term of office, Lord Lorne made every attempt to informalize and popularize the profile of the Governor-General. He traveled almost the full expanse of the country and was seen performing official functions and socially interacting in many different areas. Great crowds followed the Vice-Regal couple, most notably during their extended tour in the summer and fall of 1881. Citizens in centres such as Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Fort Macleod gathered in great numbers to welcome them:

...Visitors from all parts of this western section of the province came in during the morning in thousands and filled the hotel dining rooms, lined the streets and blocked the crossings...the people assembled to pay respect to His Excellency the Governor-General<sup>53</sup>



This was typical of Lord Lorne's appeal.. As a patron of several renowned Canadian sporting endeavours- this personable Governor-General appeared to be actively involved in the newly-emerging sporting spirit in Canada. His personal enthusiasm witnessed his sincerity and belief in its importance.



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Plate 6

Marquis of Lorne - Canada's Fourth  
Governor-General





Plate 7 Skating Rink and Log Hut Constructed  
During Lord Lorne's Term of Office



Plate 8 Toboggan Slide at Rideau Hall



## CHAPTER IV

### LANSDOWNE AND STANLEY: 1883-1893

#### TOWARDS THE "HOLY GRAIL" OF HOCKEY

Although the circumstances of the appointment of the fifth and sixth Governors-General were quite different, the enthusiasm with which they pursued their role was similar. Henry Charles Keith Petty-Fitzmaurice, Fifth Marquis of Lansdowne, was the fourth Irishman since Confederation to be named Governor-General. Lansdowne was born in 1845 and was educated at Eton and Oxford. Following terms in the House of Lords and as Under Secretary for India in 1880, he broke with Gladstone over Home Rule for Ireland. His appointment to Canada as Governor-General was seen as something of a political exile from London: Punch carried a cartoon of Lansdowne on skis amid the Canadian snow, "in his new Canadian costume adapted to remaining for some time out in the cold."<sup>1</sup>

Frederick Arthur Stanley, son of the fourteenth Earl of Derby, succeeded the Marquis of Lansdowne in 1888. Born in London in 1841 he pursued a brief military following his education at Eton and Military College. After choosing politics, he entered the House of Commons and later served as Secretary of State for the Colonies.



Both Lansdowne and Stanley had a sporting background in their private school education and both enjoyed the sporting adventures that Canada offered. In an effort to become more familiar with the Dominion, during their terms of office each traveled to the west coast and in so doing took advantage of the newly-constructed Canadian Pacific Railway. In fact, Governor-General Lansdowne was the first Governor-General to use the line all the way.

The Vice-Regal tradition which had been established by Governors-General Dufferin and Lorne of supporting both British-linked sports and those with a uniquely Canadian heritage was enthusiastically continued. Sports such as cricket, rifle shooting, yachting and fishing, and winter recreational pursuits such as curling, tobogganing and snowshoeing assumed an important role in the official and social engagements of both Governors-General during their ten-year term of office.

The growth of certain sports during the latter half of the nineteenth century was characteristic of an age of more leisure time, urbanization, improved transportation and better organization of clubs and competitions.<sup>2</sup> "The growth of hockey throughout this half-century was nothing short of phenomenal", for example, with rule changes, the use of indoor rinks, and inter-community competitions



engendered by local rivalries each contributing to its flourishing state. The declaration of a national champion in any sport was gradually assuming a position of importance. Lord Stanley recognized this need and through his donation of the Stanley Cup to hockey, a lasting contribution to a significant sport was realized.

In this chapter it will be shown that both Governors-General Lansdowne and Stanley actively and officially supported many sports during their terms of office. The most significant contribution was not made until Lord Stanley's final year in Canada when he awarded the Stanley Cup, emblematic of the national Canadian hockey championship.

The associations and organizations responsible for the growth of curling in Canada continued to benefit from Vice-Regal patronage. Although he did not have any opportunity for curling until he arrived in Canada, the Marquis of Lansdowne "accepted the office of Patron of the Branch (Ontario Curling Association) and took to curling under the tutelage of his Military Secretary, Lord Melgund, who later as the Earl of Minto was a very popular Governor-General of Canada".<sup>4</sup> In the estimation of J.S. Russell, regarded by Stevenson as the 'Grand Old Man of the curling world of Ontario', Lansdowne was following a tradition established by Dufferin and Lorne.<sup>5</sup> "Dufferin, Lorne and



Lansdowne, ... occupying the highest position in the Dominion, greatly promoted the game of curling, and gave it a 'standing' in public estimation it had not previously held."<sup>7</sup> Kerr continues, stating that the departure of the Marquis of Lansdowne was seen as regretful, "...as he had not only conferred on the game the prestige of his name, and promoted it by prizes, but had, during his residence there, learned the game and become a keen curler".<sup>7</sup>

Skating and tobogganing parties continued to be regular social activities at Rideau Hall during Lord Lansdowne's tenure. In "Notes about Entertainments, Receptions and General Information", H.J. Anjou, administrative assistant states:

Being out of doors, there is practically no limit to the numbers that can be asked. These parties were given in Lord Dufferin and Lord Lorne's time and continued by Lord Lansdowne... Saturday is the best day as business people and politicians are free... Several hundred people are generally present on a fine day.<sup>8</sup>

Hugh W. Becket in his Record of Winter Sports: 1883-4 presents a record of snowshoe and skating races in addition to many hockey and curling matches and offers an interesting insight into the colourful nature of these winter activities. This description of the 1884 Montreal Winter Carnival highlights this aspect in particular:



The Carnival week was a red letter period in the annals of snowshoeing. Never in its history was there such enthusiasm displayed. All the clubs in their club costumes and colours lent their aid in making the sports of the Carnival a success, and well they succeeded... While the snowshoers awaited the arrival of the Vice-Regal party, they entertained the immense crowd...<sup>9</sup>

In January of 1884, the active French Canadian Club- "Le Canadien Snow Shoe Club", visited Ottawa. While there they gave a concert in the Opera House and took part in the Frontenac Club's Races. The Governor-General and Lady Lansdowne, having favored the Frontenac Club with their patronage and presence were presented with a handsome pair of snowshoes by the visiting club.<sup>10</sup>

In a history of cricket in the Ottawa area, Napier suggests that the period from 1883 until 1887 when Lord Lansdowne was Governor-General was a golden era.<sup>11</sup> "His Excellency was himself no mean player and did much to popularize the game."<sup>12</sup> This was during a time when tennis and golf had not yet provided serious counter-attractions, and what is perhaps equally significant, before the decline of interest in the United States had definitely set in.

In 1884 the Ottawa Cricket Club played Government House and during this match Sir John A. Macdonald, then Prime Minister, visited the ground and was received by His Excellency in a marquee erected for the Vice-Regal party.



In 1885 a team consisting of members of Parliament and senators defeated Government House with His Excellency, the Governor-General being his side's top scorer.<sup>13</sup>

Other highlights during Lord Lansdowne's term of office included matches with visiting teams from Boston, the West Indies and Halifax.

In accepting the position of Patron to the Dominion Rifle Association during his first year in office, Lord Lansdowne spoke "of the importance of fostering a military spirit in Canada because it developed a national sentiment and it would assist in building up a great nation."<sup>14</sup>

The minutes of the annual meeting record that:

...He ventured to say that he would bring to the office something of a personal good-will, but wished he could feel that he would bring also to the performance of his duty some of the ability for which Lord Lorne was distinguished. That gentleman was not only a generous supporter, a strenuous advocate of the claims of the association, but a practical rifleman, conversant with its workings and able to bring to bear his wise counsels and practical sagacity. He expected to fall far short in this respect, for his knowledge of rifle shooting was of a somewhat distant date.<sup>15</sup>

At the annual meeting of the association on March 15th 1888 His Excellency was thanked for his liberal contribution of \$500. towards the previous year's prize fund; the gifts of silver and bronze medals to the Provincial



Associations, and his parting gift of \$250. to be invested in a cup to be called the Lansdowne Cup, in a special match to be called the Lansdowne Match.<sup>16</sup>

During the period of Lord Lansowne's term of office, the Association had reported that the number of riflemen had increased, the matches had become more important in so far as the number engaged in the competition was concerned and the prize list had been increased from 287 medals in 1884 to 363 medals in 1887.

<sup>17</sup>

Lord Lansdowne followed another Vice-Regal tradition by salmon fishing on the Cascapedia and Restigouche Rivers in New Brunswick. It is recorded that in four summers, Governor-General Lansdowne caught 1,245 salmon.<sup>18</sup>

The evidence suggests that Governor-General Lansdowne continued in the manner of his predecessors by endorsing such sports as curling, skating and tobogganing, cricket and rifle shooting. Although efforts were not made to expand the reaches of Vice-Regal patronage, the above-mentioned sports benefitted from the association and the status quo became even more firmly established.

Lord Stanley succeeded the Marquis of Lansdowne in office and although his direct involvement in the game of curling was less significant, he continued to present



the Governor-General's Trophy which Lord Dufferin had inaugurated. However, Lord Stanley proposed changes in the competition to counter difficulties which seemed as if they might again occur. The new plan saw each province being represented by one club selected by the central associations of both the iron- and stone-playing clubs at a bonspiel to be held in Ottawa. If the club selected for a province could not make the journey to Ottawa, another club could be nominated and unless more than one province was willing to compete for them, the cups presented by the Governor-General should be withheld.<sup>19</sup>

The first trial of the new plan in 1890 had an unfortunate conclusion. Manitoba defeated the Walkerton (Ontario) Club. However, Manitoba's two rinks included players from two clubs instead of one as stipulated in the rules. Following an appeal, the prize was not awarded for that year.<sup>20</sup>

Lord Stanley, when he was Governor-General also hosted various winter parties at Rideau Hall. The Citizen gives an account of "... the grand fancy dress carnival in the Rideau skating rink last night as a success in every particular, the attendance numbering one thousand people."<sup>21</sup>

During his term of office, Lord Stanley organized a Rideau Hall cricket team which regularly played. Matches



between the Members of Parliament XI and the Rideau Hall XI were frequently organized. Napier records: "In 1893 a climactic and almost disastrous event occurred. the Pavilion being burnt down. Fortunately, and thanks largely to the Governor-General, Lord Stanley, and the Department of Public Works, a new structure was erected..."<sup>22</sup>

Records of the Dominion Rifle Association indicate that when Lord Stanley was Patron, he contributed \$500. to each year's prize list and continued to present silver and bronze medals to the Provincial Rifle Associations. In his introductory speech the Governor-General stated: "We will continue to do what we can to promote the interests of the Dominion Rifle Association"<sup>23</sup> and in his concluding address to the association he remarked that "he would carry along with him the most pleasing recollections of his interest with the association."<sup>24</sup>

Interest that had arisen in yachting and sailing continued to flourish during the 1880's. Several Canadian cities from Halifax to Victoria were key centers for the sport and in many cases, valuable trophies or cash prizes were awarded to the victors.<sup>25</sup> Lord Stanley was particularly instrumental in facilitating presentation of the Queen's Cup in 1891. In a telegram to Her Majesty, His Excellency stated:



Please express to the Queen, my deep sense of Her Majesty's gracious favour in presenting the cup to Canadian Yacht Clubs. Nothing could be better than your suggestion as to inscription of the cup and conduct of this year's competition... Am enquiring as to conditions most suitable for future years so as to bring other Canadian clubs fairly into competition. May I make this known? <sup>26</sup>

The value of the Cup was one hundred pounds sterling and was to be sailed for by yachts belonging to Canadian Yacht Clubs. For the first year the race was sailed for at Toronto. <sup>27</sup>

By far, the single dominating feature of vice-regal patronage of Canadian sport either by Lord Lansdowne or Lord Stanley did not take place until the last year of Governor-General Stanley's term of office when he donated a Cup emblematic of the Dominion Hockey Championship. Justification for this statement lies in the time-appreciating significance of the Stanley Cup to present day; representative of professional hockey supremacy and the aspirational 'holy grail' of thousands of young Canadian hockey players who dream of playing on a Stanley Cup winning team.

In understanding the rationale for presentation of this trophy it is necessary to examine the 'phenomenal' growth of hockey during the latter half of the nineteenth century. <sup>28</sup>



During the 1870's hockey was still basically an outdoor game with each community following its own version of the rules. One notable exception was Montreal's Victoria Rink- the scene of many of the sport's firsts; such as, restrictions limiting the number of players to seven on each side; the use of the hockey puck; time restrictions on the length of match; and paying spectators being admitted.<sup>29</sup>

In the early 1880's there were four senior hockey clubs in Montreal: the Victorias, Montreal AAA, the Crystals and McGill. By 1885 four Kingston clubs played league games on an outdoor rink. The year, 1886, witnessed the formation of the Canadian Hockey Association with Montreal AAA, the Victoria Club, the Crystal Club, Ottawa and Quebec entering teams in competition. The Junior Amateur Hockey Association was formed the next year, 1887.<sup>30</sup>

Roxborough states that: "Encouraged by the new uniform rules as devised by McGill University students, the game rapidly spread to Quebec, Ottawa, Kingston, Paris, Lindsay and other centres".<sup>31</sup> By 1889 a league in Toronto was formed.<sup>32</sup>



At Ottawa, Governor-General Stanley was a keen follower of the Ottawa team considered to be the best in Canada. He sponsored formation of the Government House team called the Rideau Hall Rebels. Lord Stanley's sons took an active interest in the team and it is generally believed that they persuaded him to donate the now famous Cup.<sup>33</sup>

The first public announcement that the Governor-General, Lord Stanley would donate a cup for the Dominion Hockey Championship was made at a dinner in honour of the Ottawa Hockey Club at Ottawa, 18 March 1892:

I have for some time past been thinking that it would be a good thing if there were a challenge cup which should be held from year to year by the champion hockey team in the Dominion. There does not appear to be any such outward and visible sign of championship at present, and considering the general interest which the matches now elicit, and the importance of having the game played fairly and under rules generally recognized, I am willing to give a cup which shall be held from year to year by the winning team.<sup>34</sup>

The Montreal Hockey Club, founded in 1884 as an affiliate of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association won the Stanley Cup in its maiden year, 1894. Apparently, when the trustees inadvertently presented the cup to the M.A.A.A., members of the hockey club were so insulted that they refused to accept the trophy for ten months!



Sheriff J. Sweetland and Mr. P. D. Ross were appointed as trustees of the Cup and they were requested to oversee conditions of competition. The following conditions were set forth by His Excellency Lord Stanley as initial conditions:<sup>36</sup>

1. The winners to give bond for the return of the Cup in good order when required by the trustees for the purpose of being handed over to any other team who may in turn win.
2. Each winning team to have at their own charge engraved on a silver ring fitted on the Cup for the purpose, the name of the team and the year won.
3. The Cup shall remain a challenge cup and will not become the property of any team, even if won more than once.
4. In case of any doubt as to the title of any club the claim the position of champions, the Cup shall be held or awarded by the trustees as they might see fit, their decision being absolute.
5. Should either trustee resign or otherwise drop out the remaining trustee shall nominate a substitute.

"Thus, at a cost of ten guineas, the illustrious name of Lord Stanley of Preston has been honourably remembered



through many generations." 37

From its inception as the symbol of amateur hockey supremacy, the Stanley Cup has now become the "highest award for professional hockey superiority". 38 From very small beginnings, the present contest for the 'holy grail' of hockey has evolved- a prominent example of vice-regal patronage of sport.



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Plate 9      Baron Stanley of Preston - Canada's  
Sixth Governor-General





Plate 10 His Excellency Lord Stanley's Cricket Team (Rideau Hall) versus Members of Parliament XI c. 1890



Plate 11 Montreal Hockey Club - 1893 First Winner of the Stanley Cup





Plate 12

The Stanley Cup



## CHAPTER V

ABERDEEN: 1893-1898

### PHILANTHROPY AND SPORT AT RIDEAU HALL

Democratic in their sympathies and actions Lord and Lady Aberdeen came closer than any other previous occupants of Government House to the rank and file of the Canadian people taking a practical interest in the welfare and happiness of the less privileged classes of the community.<sup>1</sup>

Cowan suggests that the vice-regal couple whose term of office lasted from 1893 to 1898 did much to come into contact with several elements of Canadian society.

John Campbell Hamilton-Gordon, the seventh Governor-General was born in Edinburgh, August 3rd, 1847 and before his appointment was quite familiar with Canada having come here four years earlier to establish a 480-acre fruit ranch in Vernon, British Columbia.<sup>2</sup>

Lady Aberdeen, Ishbel Maria Marjoribanks (1857-1939) was the daughter of Lord Tweedmouth, a member of Parliament and close friend of Gladstone.<sup>3</sup> During her stay in Canada she worked furiously for a number of causes; among them, literacy in the West, the National Council of Women and the Victorian Order of Nurses. Her Canadian Journal gives an interesting insight into Canadian life and is regarded as 'the best social portrait of Canada of its time.'<sup>4</sup>



Lord Aberdeen, in an effort to relate to a cross-section of Canadian society supported various philanthropic causes and took an active interest in numerous welfare and cultural activities. Religious unification, formation of the Canadian branch of the Boys' Brigade and promotion of Canadian art were but a few of these interests.<sup>5</sup>

Given the characteristic style of involvement by Lord Aberdeen and his wife, it is not surprising that sport played a major role in allowing the Governor-General to reach out to the Canadian people. As did his predecessors, Lord Aberdeen became a patron and in most cases, actively supported games of the Old Country. This was a natural consequence of earlier sporting experiences, previous to the Canadian appointment. In Lord Aberdeen's case, curling, golf, soccer and cricket claimed his attention.

However, Canadian sporting life in the second half of the nineteenth century was a blend of games of other cultural origins and unique activities suited to the Canadian environment- most notably the widespread popularity of winter sports. Lord Aberdeen's term of office, naturally reflected this influence with skating and tobogganing being an integral part of the social life of Government House.



In addition to his support of traditional British games and secondly, novel Canadian pastimes, a third significant connection between sport and Governor-General Aberdeen was his use of sport as a medium to become highly visible to the 'rank and file' of Canadian life. Howell contends that by the close of the nineteenth century "vastly increased numbers of spectators" were attracted to sporting activities.<sup>6</sup>

Lord Aberdeen also chose to become a patron of several less popular games and pastimes which up to that point had been ignored by his predecessors. This reflected the philanthropic emphasis of his term of office (i.e. Y.M.C.A. and the Boys' Brigade).

When Lord Stanley completed his term, his position as patron of the Ontario Curling Association was filled by Lord Aberdeen, "an ardent Scottish patriot, who had been a curler from his youth onwards."<sup>7</sup> He became actively involved in the association and introduced a policy change in the competition for the Governor-General's Prize, initiated by Lord Dufferin. For two successive seasons 1890-1891 and 1891-1892 winners of the Ontario Association were determined in order to compete against another stone-playing club for the Dominion Championship, the Governor-General's Prize. However, in both cases, the prize was



withheld when no club from any of the other associations entered for it.

A proposal was submitted asking the Governor General:

...to modify the rules governing the competition for the trophy, so that two clubs from the same stone-playing association should be allowed to compete for it, a concession, which had been given to the one iron-playing association in the Dominion.<sup>8</sup>

Lord Aberdeen decided that the complaints were justified and altered the rules permitting an association to nominate a second club from among its members provided no other association has entered.<sup>9</sup>

Exercising this privilege the Ontario Curling Association nominated against its first choice, the Toronto Granite Club, the winner of the Tankard (Ontario Championship) for the season 1893-1894, its opponent in the final match, the Dundas Club. The match... was won by the Toronto Granite Club.<sup>10</sup>

Lord Aberdeen as its patron, further supported the goals of the Ontario Curling Association by instituting a trophy in 1894 to be awarded to the winner of the competitions held within its jurisdiction.

The following letter from Col. Gibson was forwarded to His Excellency:

... the two clubs to receive your trophies are the Granite Club of Toronto for the season of 1893-1894 and the Oshawa club for the season just over. I know that what would suit the former club best would be something in the shape of a clock for a mantel in their club room...



As to the other club, I shall know more a little later on. Of course trophies can be obtained of a rather imposing appearance for moderate amounts if merely plated, but I assume that a cup given in Your Excellency's name, even if more diminutive and less pretentious in appearance, should be sterling.<sup>11</sup>

A traditional obligation of the Governor-General was the hosting of the final matches for the Governor-General's two prizes for stone and iron-playing clubs, played on the Government House rink.

Haddo House records indicate:

...His Excellency entertains the four rinks and umpires the games. A luncheon is given in the upper room of the curling house (about 24). A tray of wine, beer and spirits is left all the afternoon in the lower room for the players.<sup>12</sup>

The curling rink at Rideau Hall soon became "a busy centre of keen curling,"<sup>13</sup> and Lord Aberdeen demonstrated that he had "a first-rate knowledge of the fine points of the game."<sup>14</sup> The Constitution and By-Laws of the Rideau Curling Club (1894) indicate that there was a membership of seventy-five, listing His Excellency Earl of Aberdeen as patron.

Rinks will be open each day (except Sunday) eight until six and seven-thirty until eleven o'clock. Rinks will be formed at two-thirty, four-thirty and seven-thirty each day. No games for money.<sup>15</sup>

An indication of Lord Aberdeen's personal interest in the game was evident during a visit to Toronto in January, 1894. He skipped a rink "which held its own against a



rink of very experienced Toronto curlers and the fervent enthusiasm for the game, which he manifested, completely won the hearts of the curlers of Toronto."<sup>16</sup>

The association benefitted greatly from its association with Lord Aberdeen as patron and the gratitude of the members was frequently voiced through J.S. Russell in letters to His Excellency.

20 October 1897 - The members unanimously resolved to request the Governor-General to continue in the relation of patron to the Ontario Curling Association...

1 November 1898 - ... It is possible that you may be requested to use your efforts in influencing a visit of Scottish Curlers to Canada.

11 October 1898 - ... to acknowledge to you personally, before you leave the Dominion, their appreciation of the interest you have shown in the recognition and promotion of the good old Scottish game in the Dominion of Canada...<sup>17</sup>

However, curling was not the only sport of Scottish origin which benefitted from an association with Governor-General Aberdeen, himself a Scot. "Golf's popularity was rapidly increasing in Canada and during the 1890's clubs were established in many more major towns."<sup>18</sup>

With the barrier of distance becoming less insurmountable, inter-community competition was characteristic of this time period. A logical development was the movement for the declaration of national champions.



Nowhere else, was the movement for the organization of national competition so pronounced. Scarcely had a sport been received, refined, invented or taken up than clubs were formed and competition ensued within communities or localities then broadened swiftly to the provincial and even to the national level. Canadians wanted national champions...<sup>20</sup>

In many cases, Governors-General facilitated this movement by initiating prizes and awards for national championships. The history of vice-regal patronage of sport is a chronicle of the fostering of sporting achievement carried in many cases to the national level.

The Canadian Golf Association By-laws of 1895 indicate that in an effort to promote nationally the Scottish game and to determine a national amateur champion, the Aberdeen Cup was presented by His Excellency the Governor-General:

The Aberdeen Cup... shall be held for the year by the winner of the amateur championship- the club to which the winner belongs shall become security for it. Under the terms of the gift, the cup becomes the absolute property of anyone winning three years in succession.<sup>21</sup>

In 1895 the first championship was held at the Royal Ottawa Golf Club and was won by T. Harley of Kingston.<sup>22</sup> In 1896 the Edmonton and Halifax Golf Clubs were formed. This account of the 1897 championship for the Aberdeen Cup was given in the Golfing Annual:

Mr. Henderson and Mr. W.A.H. Kerr, the Toronto crack, who, like Mr. Henderson, had won all his ties with ease, were left to fight for the Earl of Aberdeen's



Cup and the Championship over thirty-six holes on September 25th. For the first eighteen holes, the spectators, who turned out in large numbers, were treated to a splendid match; but thereafter Mr. Kerr's steadiness told a tale, and forging ahead he won by five up and four to play.<sup>23</sup>

There is an indication that Lord Aberdeen supported football. Whether this was rugby union football or association football, is not clear. This confusion of nomenclature was a common occurrence in newspaper accounts of the day.<sup>24</sup> However, both games were popularized in Great Britain and Lord Aberdeen's interest in the game would have been based on his early sporting experiences.

Correspondence from Mr. R. Wilson, secretary of the Montreal Junior and Juvenile football League encloses "a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws governing the league, which Lord Aberdeen has consented to become Honorary Patron of."<sup>25</sup> The letter also requests a subscription as "there is no other revenue other than club subscriptions."<sup>26</sup>

His Excellency also received a letter from John Kyle Secretary of the Scottish Athletic Football Club "enclosing one of our membership cards, also a piece of our colours."<sup>27</sup> It will be shown that other Scottish clubs approached the Governor-General for endorsement and Lord Aberdeen obliged thereby strengthening the ethnic bond.



Traditional cricket matches were continued at Government House during Lord Aberdeen's term of office. Matches between the members of the Governor-General's staff and XI's of the Ottawa Cricket Club and the Houses of Parliament were conducted.

On these occasions His Excellency gave luncheon to players, scorers and umpires either in a tent, on the cricket field or on the tennis court... The cricket ground is practically handed over to the Ottawa Cricket Club during the season. They keep it in order and charge admission to their matches...

Use of the cricket ground was subject to the following restrictions. They were not permitted to lend the ground to other parties without getting permission from Government House, the latter having the right to practise and take the ground for matches with due notice being given to the club. Members of Government House staff were made members of the Ottawa Cricket Club on payment of \$5.00 a year.<sup>29</sup>

Such restrictions explain the following letter sent by Secretary Gallway of the Ottawa Cricket Club on December 7, 1896:

The Ottawa Cricket Club is forced through financial considerations to formulate some scheme for the future whereby they will enlarge their membership. As it is now there is a considerable deficit in the treasury and the good old game is threatened with disaster.

Accordingly, a special meeting was called last month and it was thought feasible to procure a greatly enlarged list of members if certain other games could be introduced on the field, such for



example as tennis, bowls and quoits...

We may express the hope that there will be no serious objection on the part of His Excellency to our adopting the scheme outlined above...<sup>30</sup>

His Excellency, Lord Aberdeen, replied that he was "quite agreeable on the understanding that each proposed development is requested before being carried out. Will be glad to co-operate being wanting to see cricket flourish."<sup>31</sup>

Lord Aberdeen also figured prominently in sporting activities which were less familiar to himself, but which were well-known as part of the Canadian sporting experience.

Winter sports continued to be a source of amusement for members of the vice-regal household:

In the grounds we had three high toboggan slides, two open-air rinks for skating and ice hockey, another indoor rink for curling matches; and all around the Rideau and Rockcliffe woods for snowshoeing and skiing!<sup>32</sup>

"Christmas holidays in 1894 were spent at Montreal where they (the family) enjoyed snowshoeing, tobogganing, skating, curling, hockey etc., and especially the storming of an ice castle by members of various snowshoe clubs..."<sup>33</sup>

Lady Aberdeen was fascinated by the game of hockey but her misgivings about the game foreshadowed one of its seemingly inherent aspects:

If the players get over keen and lose their tempers as they are too apt to do, the possession of the stick and the close proximity to one another gives the occasion for many a nasty hit.<sup>34</sup>



The Governor-General extended his patronage to the Aberdeen Hockey Club of Ottawa whose secretary in a letter dated 14 December 1896 stated: "At the date of our organization previous to your Excellency's arrival in Canada, the club was composed to a great extent of the sons of Scotchmen (sic) who suggested that the club be named the Aberdeen Hockey Club".<sup>35</sup>

Lacrosse continued to be a popular Canadian game and although Governor-General Aberdeen did not seem to be as attracted to the sport as did his predecessors, C. Berkeley Powell, President of the Capital Lacrosse Club, indicated that Lord Aberdeen was Patron of the club during his term of office.

His Excellency continued the practice of officially supporting the goals and activities of the Dominion Rifle Association. At the 1896 Executive Council Meeting in an opening address, Lieutenant-Colonel Gibson stated:

We are glad to see so good an attendance of representatives of the association from different parts of the Dominion and especially glad that we are honored with the presence of His Excellency the Governor-General who has been in the habit of attending the meeting and showing the interest he entertains for the association and its operations.

There is no higher ambition on the part of riflemen at the annual meeting than to be partakers in the Governor-General's bounty.



The large cash donation received yearly from His Excellency was divided into three prizes, and to win one of these, and, if possible, the first was the aim of every competitor.<sup>36</sup>

Yachting and sailing continued to grow in popularity in the Dominion as the twentieth century approached. Lord Stanley was instrumental in facilitating presentation of the Queen's Cup in 1891. Excellent sailing was afforded on the west coast and races were frequently arranged between Victoria, Vancouver and Seattle.<sup>37</sup> In November of 1896 Governor-General Aberdeen received this correspondence from the President of the Vancouver Yacht Club:

Whereas a Yacht Club has been formed in Vancouver consisting of ninety-eight members owning and controlling eleven sailing yachts and five steam launchers.

And whereas it is the desire of such club to become a "Royal Yacht Club". Therefore, we the undersigned representative of said Club humbly petition Your Excellency to obtain the desired permission from Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.<sup>38</sup>

Popular social and sporting events which had widespread public appeal often drew the support of the Governor-General. Organizing committees often depended on such support to enhance their image. Mr. C. Myers, Secretary of the 1897 Ottawa Jubilee Celebrations requested that Their Excellencies attend as many of the events as possible. Among these celebrations were sporting events such as a



lacrosse match and a military and bicycle parade to Lansdowne Park. The Governor-General responded his intention to become involved in these celebrations.<sup>39</sup>

Even sports such as archery and chess, considered to be activities of minor importance, in terms of public interest which they generated, were not overlooked by Lord Aberdeen. William H. Hill sent this request to the Governor-General on June 29th, 1894:

The city council (Toronto) have endorsed and approved of my scheme for the introduction of archery as an instructive amusement for the public. A Grand Range is being made at the Centre Park on the Island.

For the better introduction of the same as a harmless but manly exercise or recreation, your subscriber would be greatly honoured by receiving permission to use Your Excellency's name as approving of the same.<sup>40</sup>

The programme for the Dominion Chess Championships held in Orillia on June 30th, 1897 indicates that Governor-General Aberdeen was a patron.<sup>41</sup>

The philanthropic emphasis of His Excellency's term

of office is evidenced through his support of the Boys' Brigade and the Young Men's Christian Association.

Correspondence from Dr. Lyman Abbott on November 18th, 1895 indicated that the Brigade was "now being drilled in two divisions, including a class in light gymnastics."<sup>42</sup>

Prior to this date, the Governor-General had promised



that he would donate a medal to the Boys' Brigade, then just organizing. His Excellency was present at lectures, socials and Physical Department Exhibitions of both the Ottawa and Montreal Branches of the Y.M.C.A.

Another significant Montreal organization, which had figured prominently in the development of nineteenth-century Canadian sport sought the patronage of the Governor-General. On October 22nd, 1897 the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association requested the honour of his presence at their first annual dinner:

The Association as you are aware consists of over 2,000 members and the utmost enthusiasm has been displayed both by the older and present active members regarding this dinner... All the prominent amateur athletic sports- football, lacrosse snowshoeing, hockey, skating, cricket, bicycling and tennis will be fully represented and as this is in reality the first event of this nature to take place in Canada, it is most desirable that it should have the patronage of His Excellency. 43

Lord Aberdeen was active in many sporting circles during his term office. He carried on the traditional patronage roles which had been established by his predecessors. However, he recognized the impact that newer sports were having on Canadians. An example of this was his initiation of the Aberdeen Cup to represent golfing interests on a national scale. Of more importance was his interest in a wide variety of less prominent sporting activities such as bicycling, cricket, yachting and others,



which benefitted from his support. Finally, his philanthropic causes indicated that Cowan's perception of the vice-regal proximity to the 'rank and file of Canadian people' was indeed justified.



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Plate 13      Marquis of Aberdeen - Canada's  
Seventh Governor-General  
1893-1898





Plate 14      Lord Aberdeen at the Dominion Rifle  
Matches      September 1898



## CHAPTER VI

MINTO: 1898-1904

### NATIONAL TOURS AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

The turn of the century in Canada witnessed great changes in the economic and social life.<sup>1</sup> An optimistic Canadianism reflected confidence during this period of prosperity and expansion.<sup>2</sup>

In reference to Lord Minto, whose term of office lasted from 1898 to 1904 and Lord Grey, who succeeded Lord Minto until 1908, Hubbard states:

The movement towards Imperial Unity, which had gained momentum in England during the race for overseas territory, strongly coloured the activities of both these Governors-General... Yet both these men, like so many of their predecessors, became astonishingly Canadian. It was, in fact, the confluence of national and Imperial enthusiasms which they embodied in themselves, that lent their period its special flavour.<sup>3</sup>

Lord Grey's term of office and contributions to sport will be considered in the following chapter. The purpose of this discussion is the consideration of three major and significant sporting associations during Lord Minto's term of office and how they reflected the sentiment of the time.



Gilbert John Murray-Kynnymond Elliot, Lord Melgund and later Lord Minto was the eighth Governor-General. He was born in London in 1845 and received his education at Eton and Cambridge. While at school, he was involved in hard driving sport and in particular horse racing. His appointments during a military career included a session from 1883 to 1886 as military secretary to Lord Lansdowne, then Governor-General of Canada.<sup>4</sup>

Significant events which occurred during Lord Minto's term included the South African War, the death of Queen Victoria and the Canadian tour of the Duke and Duchess of York (later King George V and Queen Mary). It was while he was Governor-General that Hubbard stated in his illustrated history of Government House: "Sport now played a more prominent part in the life of Rideau Hall than before."<sup>5</sup>

The three significant contributions of Lord Minto to sport embraced the activities of skating, curling and lacrosse. National figure skating championships and the founding of the Minto Skating Club directly resulted from the enthusiasm of Lord Minto for the sport. After several unsuccessful attempts, Canadian curlers finally had the opportunity of testing their skill against a touring team of Scottish players; and Lord Minto was instrumental



in bringing this to fruition. Lastly, the Minto Cup continues to this day as emblematic of the national lacrosse champions.

Clearly, each of these sporting examples represents an attempt to consciously or unconsciously instil a Canadian pride among sporting enthusiasts and spectators, and to foster pro-Nationalist sentiment.

Numerous examples have demonstrated that skating was one of the most popular winter sports in Canada during this time period. Skating was even incorporated in the numerous socials and parties at Rideau Hall: "Fond of outdoor sports, Lord and Lady Minto were both expert skaters and many skating parties were held on the ice at Government House in these days".<sup>6</sup> In a letter from Mr. R. W. Scott of the Department of the Secretary of State to Lord Minto, approval was given from Mr. McGee, clerk of the Privy Council "to make any rules and regulations concerning plans for improving the rink (at Rideau Hall) the Lady Minto may wish to see."<sup>7</sup>

Lady Minto, in addition to being a very capable skater herself, was also a great promoter of skating competitions:

At some date in February hereafter to be named, Her Excellency the Countess of Minto proposes to offer a prize for ladies' skating to be called the



'Countess of Minto Prize.' The object of the competition will be to encourage skating, especially as regards as (sic) exact execution on the edges, control of these edges, and the necessary position of the body to render them possible, in connection with large curves which add to the beauty and grace of skating. Each figure will be skated to a centre.<sup>8</sup>

The Minto Skating Club was founded in 1903, at Ottawa, by Lord and Lady Minto, on the eve of the departure from Canada, "Lady Minto being undoubtedly one of the best lady skaters at present known."<sup>9</sup>

The Constitution and By-laws of the Minto Skating Club, 1906 indicate that the club had a membership of one hundred and twelve members.

Some twenty of these members are non-resident and efforts are being made to establish branches in other cities.

Official Club meetings were at first held at the rink at Rideau Hall, but the Ottawa branch has developed sufficiently to obtain the use of a rink for local members.

It has been decided to hold annual competitions under the auspices of the Club... Each competition will consist partly of compulsory figures, and partly of "free" figures selected by the competitor.

These will be, generally in three classes:-  
 1st. Doubles (Otherwise called 'Hand in Hand skating)  
 2nd. Open singles  
 3rd. Ladies singles

The first competition was held in March 1905, the honors being divided between Ottawa and Montreal.<sup>10</sup>

Lord Minto's Challenge Cup for single skating was won by Mr. C. B. Haycock. The twin challenge cups for combined skating, donated by Lord Minto, were won by Mr. C. B. Haycock and Miss K. A. Haycock and the Countess of



Minto Prize was won by Miss Annie L. Ewan.<sup>11</sup>

However, skating was not the only winter sport with which Lord Minto was actively associated. Curling, by this time enjoyed widespread participation, benefitted from excellent facilities and boasted a large number of annual trophies and prizes.<sup>12</sup> Lord Minto first demonstrated his interest in curling to Canadians when he was military secretary to Governor-General Lansdowne. At that time, Lord Minto, then Lord Meglund was:

... not only a very ardent curler but he was President-elect of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club and he bestirred himself zealously to back a renewed invitation to the curlers of Scotland to send at least two or three rinks for a curling tour in Ontario but it did not evoke the response which he had hoped for.<sup>13</sup>

Curlers since Lord Dufferin's day were anxious to host a touring Scottish curling team. "They were all united in wanting... a chance to display their wonderful achievements to representatives from the birthplace of the sport".<sup>14</sup> Successive Governors-General including Lord Lorne, Lord Lansdowne and Lord Aberdeen passed on this request to the Royal Caledonian Curling Club when their term of office was completed. However it was not until the turn of the century when the tour materialized, Lord Minto being instrumental in the outcome.



Smith of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club indicate the optimum conditions which existed for suitable timing of the tour and the extent of involvement of Governor-General Minto.<sup>15</sup>

Edinburgh, 25th April 1902

The Right Honourable  
The Earl of Minto

My Lord,

I have now the pleasure of enclosing for your Lordship's information and perusal Copy of Minutes of Meeting of gentlemen interested in the proposal to send a Curling Team to Canada and the States during the next winter.

As your Lordship may be aware this proposal has been often raised before and hitherto the difficulties have appeared so considerable that no definite steps have resulted. It is now strongly felt that in view of His Majesty the King's approaching Coronation and other recent events, together with the strong Imperial feeling as to the desirability and necessity of cementing the ties that unite the Mother Country with her Colonies, that the auspicious time has arrived when such a proposal should take effect.

As already mentioned the difficulties are considerable. There is the question of expense and also the difficulty of getting competent teams of gentlemen who can spare the time. Of course it might be possible to get two or three Rinks together, the members of which might pay their own expenses, but it is felt that in this way the Teams would not be sufficiently representative, and it was the feeling of the Meeting that Subscriptions should be invited and a Central Fund formed...

I have written to the Secretaries of Curling Associations in Canada and the States, who during the last twenty years have sent repeated pressing invitations for such a visit, asking them for information and advice, and also to co-operate with a view of



drawing up a Programme of Matches to be played during a visit of about two months (say January and February) when ice is practically a certainty.

It has been suggested, should the present movement be successful, to play at the following centres in the Dominion, viz: Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, Ottawa and perhaps Winnipeg, and in curling brotherhood say at two centres in the United States, but the definite programme is a matter for future consideration.

I have taken the liberty of writing your Lordship in this connection, knowing the interest you take in Canada, and your knowledge of the country, in the hope that you will see your way to give the movement your patronage and support and I shall be very glad to have your views on the subject.

I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's Obedient Servant,

A. Davidson Smith

After suitable financial arrangements were completed, the touring Scottish team of twenty-four curlers arrived in Halifax on December 20th, 1902. They played games at Halifax, Saint John, Quebec and Montreal before moving on to Ottawa.

In a welcoming address to the touring team, Rev. W.T. Herridge, Chaplain of the Ottawa Club and an eloquent preacher, stated his conviction "that the visit of the Scottish Curling Team would help to cement still more closely the bonds which united them, and that every interchange of a similar kind would strengthen the true Imperialistic sentiment..." 16



The following day a match was arranged against the Ottawa Club. It was hoped by the Scottish curlers that they would have a game in the open air at the Governor-General's rink at Rideau Hall. However the intense cold forced the game indoors in the covered rink.<sup>17</sup>

Lord and Lady Minto received the teams at a luncheon at Rideau Hall. In a speech of welcome, he referred to "the desire with which he had long looked forward to such a visit; and in the name of the Dominion he expressed his good wishes for the team."<sup>18</sup> In reply the Scottish captain referred "to all that Lord Minto had done to bring about such a visit from Scottish curlers."<sup>19</sup>

... In the afternoon several matches were played in the open at Rideau Hall in presence of Lord Minto and his family and a large company of visitors. These reminded one more of home than anything that had yet been experienced, and it was a pity they did not count in the summation of matches played during the tour, for in the open the Scotsmen had by far the best of it.<sup>20</sup>

Following the warm hospitality of the Ottawa curlers and Lord and Lady Minto, the Scottish team entered the territory of the Ontario Curling Association on January 20th 1903. Between this date and February 2nd they played matches against ninety-five different rinks belonging to some fifty clubs while visiting ten cities and towns.<sup>21</sup> "Officials of the Ontario Curling Association had made elaborate arrangements to ensure that as many curlers as



possible in the province should either play against the visitors or should have the opportunity of meeting them".<sup>22</sup> Games were played in Peterborough, Lindsay, Toronto, Hamilton, Stratford, St. Thomas, Guelph, Windsor and Detroit.

From Ontario the touring team participated in a bonspiel in Winnipeg. Teams travelled from as far away as Edmonton and the Yukon to Participate. The Scottish captain wrote:

There is no doubt that at this great curling Durbar one meets and sees the finest curling in the world. Most of the players who go to Winnipeg have attained distinction in their own districts before they are ever allowed to enter and they are sent there to uphold the honor of their respective clubs... The number of prizes and the value of the spoil at the Winnipeg Bonspiel seemed to bring out a far more desperate and striking kind of play than we had ever witnessed in our former matches with the clubs in the Dominion.<sup>23</sup>

The Scots and their Canadian hosts were delighted with the result of the tour. Quite apart from the results of the games themselves, where the visitors seemed to be at a disadvantage when playing on artificial ice, a camaraderie was established which would result in future tours. The Canadians were establishing themselves as knowledgeable and proficient curlers, and the results of the tour instilled a pride based on their performance.



It is significant that Lord Minto was instrumental in facilitating the arrangements for the tour and played such a prominent role in hosting the curlers when they were in Ottawa.

A final major contribution by Lord Minto to Canadian sport during his term of office was the donation in 1901 of the Minto Cup, emblematic of the national senior lacrosse championship. The intent of the award was to foster the growth of amateur lacrosse.

The first game played for the cup was between the Ottawa Capitals and the Cornwall Club at Ottawa in September 1901. Of great significance was the fact that the game was witnessed by the Duke and Duchess of York:

A match that will long be remembered in the annals of Canada's national game was that played on the varsity oval here this afternoon before Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, for possession of the trophy donated by the Governor-General and known as the Minto Cup. The match was not only noted for the presence of Royalty, but as a clean, manly exposition of scientific and cleverly played lacrosse...<sup>24</sup>

Although Ottawa won the inaugural match for the Minto Cup, its ownership from 1901 to 1906 rested with the powerful Montreal Shamrocks.<sup>25</sup> This was the beginning of the end of the amateur status requirement for the trophy as the Montreal club began to bolster their team with professionals in order to retain the trophy.<sup>26</sup>



From 1908 to 1914 the Cup was won by British Columbia teams and the true national nature of the championship was established:

Great is the rejoicing on the banks of the Fraser River. The New Westminster lacrosse team has captured the Minto Cup symbolic of the championship of the Dominion of Canada.<sup>27</sup>

The history of lacrosse in Canada as it evolved from the turn of the century was a stormy one indeed. The pervasive and inevitable influence of professionalism and the warring of rival member associations over rules and salaries contributed to a fall in popularity of the game. These factors were compounded by the rise in popularity of baseball, a sport competing for summer gate receipts; and the inherent rough play of the game itself-less attractive to the public.<sup>28</sup>

Though tested during those bitter days of warring professionalism, the spirit of the terms of presentation of the cup initiated by Lord Minto is honoured by the amateur teams who currently compete for it. Today, the Minto Cup is held by the Canadian Lacrosse Association and is offered as the trophy for the Junior champion lacrosse team in Canada.

Lord Minto continued a precedent established by former Governors-General of recognizing the importance



of sport in the social context of Canada and of actively patronizing various sports. The eighth Governor-General assumed his position when national pride was being fostered in many areas of endeavour serving to augment the revived interest of Britain in its member colonies. Therefore, the two significant factors evidenced by Lord Minto's patronage of selected sports are the 'cementing of ties' with Great Britain, notably present in the Scottish curling tour; and the movement to establish national champions in Canadian-nurtured sports- skating and lacrosse. Lord Minto's contribution to the development of sport in Canada was significant- an existing national trophy and an active skating club in Ottawa witness this fact.



<sup>1</sup>R. H. Hubbard, Rideau Hall (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1967), p. 99.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid.

<sup>4</sup>John Cowan, Canada's Governors-General: Lord Monck to General Vanier. (Toronto: York Publishing Company, 1965), p. 80.

<sup>5</sup>Hubbard, op. cit., p. 102.

<sup>6</sup>Cowan, op. cit., p. 80.

<sup>7</sup>Papers of Governor-General Minto, (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 II B1, 13 December 1900)

<sup>8</sup>Manitoba Free Press, 19 January 1903.

<sup>9</sup>Minto Skating Club Constitution and By-laws, Ottawa: 1906.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid.

<sup>11</sup>Ibid.

<sup>12</sup>Gerald Redmond, "The Scots and Sport in Nineteenth Century Canada" (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Alberta, 1972) p. 165.

<sup>13</sup>John Stevenson, Curling in Ontario 1846-1946 (Toronto: Ontario Curling Association, 1950) p. 79.

<sup>14</sup>Redmond, op. cit., p. 165.

<sup>15</sup>Correspondence of Governor-General Minto, (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 II B1), 25 April 1902.



<sup>16</sup> John Kerr, Curling in Canada and the United States (Edinburgh: G.A. Morton, 1904), p. 243.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., p. 248.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., p. 249.

<sup>21</sup> Stevenson, op. cit., p. 101.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> Kerr, op. cit., p. 475.

<sup>24</sup> Manitoba Morning Free Press, 21 September 1901.

<sup>25</sup> Capital-Cornwall Lacrosse Match with Minto Cup (Ottawa: Public Archives, Picture Division, C33329-Special Display)

<sup>26</sup> Howell and Howell, op. cit., p. 306.

<sup>27</sup> Victoria Daily Colonist, 29 July 1908.

<sup>28</sup> Howell and Howell, op. cit., pp. 308-9.





Plate 15

Earl of Minto - Canada's  
Eighth Governor-General  
1898 - 1904





Plate 16      The Minto Cup for the  
Dominion Lacrosse Championship





Plate 17      Lord Minto and Members of the  
Minto Skating Club - Rideau Hall  
1904



Plate 18      Capital Lacrosse Team and  
Officers - First Winners of  
The Minto Cup 20 September 1901



## CHAPTER VII

### GREY AND CONNAUGHT: 1904-1916

#### THE FOOTBALL CUP AND OTHERS

The first decade of the twentieth century in Canada was marked by a sense of optimism based on economic growth and prosperity with a new surge of industry. For thirty years previously, not only in Canada but in other countries, there had been long periods of depression and only brief periods of prosperity. Trade and prices were rising throughout the world and demand for Canadian products was increasing.<sup>1</sup>

The opening of the West was a significant event in this first decade of the twentieth century. Heavy migration from Europe was partly responsible, but tens of thousands of settlers from Eastern Canada contributed to the influx. Among them not only were farmers, but also leaders who established western Canada's institutions, its railways, its education, its churches, business methods and professions.<sup>2</sup> Railways and liberal land grants made this pioneer expansion possible:

It was Canada's hour. Canada had captured the imagination of the Western World. It had become the land of hope and opportunity. And the Canadian north-west, which had seemed for decades the final proof of the Dominion's failure, became at once the happiest index of its new good fortune and its new success.<sup>3</sup>



This was the Canada over which Albert Henry George Grey, Fourth Earl Grey exercised his vice-regal powers as Canada's ninth Governor-General from 1904-1911. The term of his successor, the Duke of Connaught, 1911-1916, was marked by the outbreak of war in Europe and all of Canada's efforts were directed to ultimate success at the front. This chapter will examine the contribution of these Governors-General during contrasting years of Canada's economic, political and social experience.

In Canada Grey found full scope for his Imperial zeal, his oratory, and his charm with people... In a period of material prosperity he became not only the country's best advertising agent but its spur in the pursuit of higher things.<sup>4</sup>

Laurier, then in office as Prime Minister once testified that "he gave his whole heart, his whole soul and his whole life to Canada".<sup>5</sup>

His many interests embraced agriculture, travel and reform with sport maintaining its place of honour at Rideau Hall.<sup>6</sup> Grey was an enthusiastic and popular Governor-General who, as a natural consequence of his interest, used sport as a medium to reach the Canadian people. It is significant and symbolic indeed that his first duty in office in Ottawa late in 1904 was facing-off the puck in a hockey match between Ottawa and Dawson City.<sup>7</sup>

Grey was in great demand as a speaker at various social functions. His wit and colourful oratory drew widespread attention. Always present was the optimistic view of a



dynamic Canada.

The Toronto News of April 26th, 1905 included this account of His Excellency's association with the yachting community:

Yacht Club Ball- A Brilliant Affair

The RCYC (Royal Canadian Yacht Club) Ball which was held at the King Edward last evening can be classed among one of Toronto's most brilliant social successes... There is no doubt that the presence of Their Excellencies the Governor-General and the Countess of Grey was an added attraction to everyone including many out-of-town guests.<sup>8</sup>

Over the years, curling in Canada had benefitted greatly by the patronage of Governors-General. Earl Grey was no exception. He accepted willingly an invitation to succeed Lord Minto as Patron of the Ontario Curling Association and attended in person the annual meeting of the O. G. A. in April, 1905 where he was presented with an address and gratitude was expressed for the continuation of the Governor-General's prize.<sup>9</sup> Mr. McMurrich, the President, concluded:

... We pray that every success will attend your Excellency's administration, and that every stone will be within the ring, and when desired sitting on the tee.<sup>10</sup>

Grey demonstrated his interest in the game and his wit in his reply:

... His Excellency said that he was afraid their hope that at the conclusion of every stroke he would be found sitting on the tee would be more applicable to his attempts at golf than curling. He suggested



that a world-wide competition for a challenge trophy be held by curlers and said that if any one present could work out the scheme, he would be glad to hear of it....<sup>11</sup>

On December 31st, 1906 the Governor-General as Patron of the Ottawa Curling Club skipped the first stone in declaring the new rink open.<sup>12</sup>

However, by far the most significant and lasting contribution made to sport by Governor-General Grey was his donation of a trophy emblematic of the Football Championship of Canada for the purpose of amateur competition in Canadian Rugby Football.

One of the earliest communications in this regard was sent from the Secretary of the Governor-General to Rev. D. B. Macdonald, Toronto on April 2nd, 1909:

His Excellency proposes to give a Challenge Cup for the Rugby Football Championship of Canada. In order to do this he is anxious to appoint certain trustees and to invite them to draw up the necessary rules, including the special one that the Cup must remain always under purely amateur conditions.

Lord Grey would be glad if you could find it convenient to be one of the Trustees for the Cup and I am writing also to Mr. H. B. McGivern, M.P. and Mr. Percival Molson to ask them if they will accept a similar office.<sup>13</sup>

The following are the original conditions set by the trustees governing competition for the Grey Cup.

1. The Club which holds the cup shall defend it on behalf of its own Union, against any challenge from any other amateur Union or representative Amateur Club.



2. Challenges shall be addressed to the trustees and shall be given preference in the order received unless specific circumstances intervene.
3. The Cup shall be open to challenge by only the leading or champion Amateur Club of any recognized Union or Association, unless the Trustees consider some special exemption desirable.
4. In any Union or Association in which the Cup is held, the Cup shall not be open to challenge by other Clubs of the same Union inasmuch as each Union has its own Championship series; but at the end of the union's season, the possession of the Cup if still in that Union, shall belong to the new Champion Club of the Union without any special Match; and that Club shall have the defence of it.
5. Holders of the Cup may accept challenges upon whatever conditions of play they choose to agree with a challenging Club, but if no such agreement is reached, the trustees will name the Rules of play.
6. If the Clubs fail to agree on any condition or conditions, the trustees will proceed to umpire on the basis of the following clauses:
  - a. Neutral grounds will be determined for the match should the two clubs not agree upon the site.
  - b. Promotion of the game will become the responsibility of a committee appointed by the trustees.
  - c. Gate receipts shall be equally divided after legitimate match expenses are paid, but no charge shall be made for grounds, if the match be played upon the ground of either competing Club. No traveling expenses allowed.
  - d. Officials must be agreed on by competing clubs, at least a week before date of Match, otherwise the trustees may appoint them. The expense, if any, shall be equally shared by the competing clubs.
7. A Club receiving the Cup shall give an acknowledgement to the trustees, stating that they hold it subject to the absolute decision of the Trustees in all respects.
8. Each Club winning the Cup may engrave its name on an attached shield, with the date of championship. <sub>14</sub>



The University of Toronto was the first recipient of the Grey Cup in 1909 and in so doing "started a period of university dominance."<sup>15</sup> From 1909 to 1924 the Grey Cup was won only four times by non-university teams.<sup>16</sup>

In these early years of Canadian rugby football several factors mitigated against declaration of truly amateur national champions. Rule standardization problems with various member unions in the east was a dominant feature matched only by advancing professionalism.<sup>17</sup> The west appeared to be making steady progress with the organization of the W.C.R.F.U. in 1911. However, when Calgary's challenge for the Cup was refused on a technicality in 1911, the West boycotted any representation in the Championship until much later, 1921.

Clearly, Earl Grey's vision of a Cup to foster national pride and to promote the amateur ethic was fraught with difficulties from its inception. It was not until 1921 when the Earl Grey Cup was placed under the trusteeship of the Canadian Rugby Union and the Western Canada Rugby Football Union was accepted back into the C.R.U. as a full member that a national championship was a reality.<sup>18</sup>

Although, the condition of amateur competition has long since been abandoned, the Grey Cup remains today as a symbol of the Canadian Football Championship. It is a uniquely high-profile sporting spectacle which evokes regional loyalties and partisanship in an effort to declare



a national champion. "Canadian football and Grey Cup Day are firmly established in the Canadian culture".<sup>19</sup>

Earl Grey energetically promoted many aspects of Canadian culture. His extended term was well-received: "Not since the Earl of Dufferin have we had so popular a Governor-General as Earl Grey. We welcome another year under his presidency."<sup>20</sup> He enjoyed life in Canada and as an eager social reformer and true democrat, "he formed many friendships across the Dominion, often with people of humble circumstances, taking a keen interest in their problems."<sup>21</sup>

It is not surprising, then, that Earl Grey's association and involvement in sport went beyond his official duties and roles. Sport permitted him to relate to the Canadian people in an informal and friendly manner, as was indicative of his nature, and to identify with pastimes and activities representative of a Canadian way of life.

Earl Grey's successor in office was the Duke of Connaught who became the first member of the royal family to occupy the post of Governor-General. He was the third and last surviving son of Queen Victoria.<sup>22</sup> Following a distinguished military career as commander of British forces in Bombay, Southern England, Ireland and the Mediterranean area, he succeeded Lord Grey as the Queen's representative in Canada in October, 1911 at the age of sixty-one.



The Duke of Connaught was greatly beloved in Canada by all classes of people, his gracious personality, kindly disposition and sympathetic interest in organizations of all kinds working for the common good, strengthening the ties... which knit Canada to the Motherland.<sup>23</sup>

Early in his term of office Their Excellencies traveled across the Dominion to the Pacific Coast- "the people everywhere greeting them with great enthusiasm".<sup>24</sup> In 1914 the Duke visited Newfoundland and Medical Mission Stations on the Labrador Coast and in the fall, when he was at Banff, war was declared by Great Britain against Germany.<sup>25</sup> During the remainder of his term, the Duke of Connaught spared no efforts in furthering Canada's war effort.

It is interesting to note that despite His Excellency's advanced age, relative to his predecessors, and the attention of the country that was focused on the war effort, sport continued to receive vice-regal patronage in the form of lasting and tangible contributions.

In June of 1912, the Duke of Connaught became the Patron of the newly formed Dominion of Canada Football Association and decided to donate a challenge cup for the championship of the Association.<sup>26</sup> This decision was made upon receiving correspondence from Mr. Norton H. Crowe Secretary of the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada stating that:

Practically all organized sports in Canada are now under the control of special bodies all of which are affiliated with the central governing body, the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada. This applies to



both team and individual games, on land or water, and in every part of the Dominion.

The formation of the Provincial organizations devoted to Association Football into a Dominion Association was completed, through offices of the A.A.U. of C. in this city (Toronto) during the visit of His Royal Highness. The new body will, by competition among its representative teams, decide the championship of Canada for the first time. <sup>27</sup>

Mr. Crowe continued to say that the beneficial effect on the game, and on all amateur sports throughout Canada would be incalculable. <sup>28</sup>

A positive response to His Excellency's donation of the Cup was also indicated in the Winnipeg Tribune:

The time had come when the Canadian championship should be represented by something more dignified than an advertising medium. Such was the object in obtaining the donation of a cup from H.R.H. Duke of Connaught. <sup>29</sup>

However, the donation of the Cup emblematic of the Dominion soccer championship was not unanimously well-received. The Duke of Connaught received a letter dated May 29th, 1912 from Mr. G. A. Parker, President of the Canadian Football Association suggesting "that the matter be held in abeyance until the wishes of the majority of Canadian Senior Soccer Clubs are ascertained." He stated that the late Sir George Armstrong of the London People presented a shield in 1905 emblematic of the Championship of Canada to be competed for among champion teams annually. The same paper also sent out the 'Corinthians' in 1907 to encourage soccer and paid the loss on the tour.



I may state that the the present time there is not a unanimous feeling among soccer players that the game should be governed by the Canadian Athletic Union, and for this further reason I suggest that you advise His Royal Highness to defer his decision.<sup>30</sup>

However, despite opposition, the Dominion of Canada Football Association decided to conduct the first contest for the Connaught Cup at Winnipeg in September 1913. The 1912 winners of the People's Shield, Fort William, registered a protest with Mr. Fred Baxter, President of the D.F.A.<sup>31</sup> The Manitoba Free Press outlined the President's response:

Mr. Baxter has replied to the Fort William officials pointing out that the People's Shield never officially represented the championship of Canada, but only the Canadian Football Association, which in its time was only a one-man show now defunct, and that the protest cannot be entertained. Mr. Baxter also informs the Fort William secretary that the Connaught Cup will be played for in Winnipeg during the month of September, champion teams from each province competing. Next season the Cup will be played for on the cup tie principle.<sup>32</sup>

Cowan indicates that the Connaughts followed the vice-regal tradition of entering into winter sports with "zest and enthusiasm."<sup>33</sup> Apparently Princess Patricia, the daughter of His Royal Highness was an expert skater.<sup>34</sup> It is not surprising, therefore that Connaught acted quickly on some advice given by his predecessor, Earl Grey, regarding presentation of an International Skating Trophy.

... Since I wrote to the Duke suggesting that His Royal Highness should give an International Skating Trophy to be competed for in Canada, the interest in a possible International Contest has been very much developed by the skating of the Ottawa Four at Boston.



If His Royal Highness would clench the matter by coming out before others have anticipated him, and authorize the announcement that he would give next year a trophy to be competed for at Ottawa, he would be doing a most useful and popular thing...<sup>35</sup>

In 1912 the Duke of Connaught presented a trophy:

With a view to the general encouragement and development of skating in combination by pairs and individuals and more particularly with a view to the encouragement and development of "Combined Skating" along the lines at present approved by the National Skating Association of Great Britain in the general style and pose approved by the International Skating Union. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of Canada, hereby gives and assigns to the trustees hereinafter mentioned and their successors in trust, a Trophy to be held by them...<sup>36</sup>

Under the terms of the deed, the Trophy was to be skated for at Ottawa. However it was later found that "this restriction had the effect of reducing the number of competitors, and confining the competition to teams from Toronto and Ottawa."<sup>37</sup> Therefore, in 1933, the deed of the gift was amended to allow the trophy to be skated for "during the North American Figure Skating Championships and under the auspices of the Club in Canada or the United States authorized to conduct these competitions."<sup>38</sup> It was felt by the officials concerned that this change would have "the effect of stimulating interest in group skating by teams of four and would raise the general level of Figure Skating in both Canada and the United States."<sup>39</sup>



Although the Duke of Connaught was not as actively involved in another winter sport, curling, as his predecessors he took an interest in the game. Stevenson noted:

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught accepted the office as Patron of the Ontario Curling Association and continued the annual presentation of the Governor-General's trophy. When he arrived in Canada, he was too old to take to curling, but he always evinced keen interest in the contest for his annual trophy and frequently offered hospitalites to curlers at Rideau Hall.<sup>40</sup>

In summary, the years of His Royal Highness, the Duke of Connaught's term of office were turbulent indeed. The shadow of war overseas loomed very large and was cast over life in the Dominion. Understandably, much of the Duke of Connaught's energy was spent in generating support for the war effort. His contribution in this area was outstanding. His personality and popularity with the Canadian people aided immeasurably in the rallying of this support.

However, not to be overlooked was his patronage of Canadian sport. He acted as Patron of several sporting associations and donated trophies for international competition in skating and national competition in soccer. Such tangible contributions are a tribute to a remarkable and enthusiastic vice-regal figure.

Both Governors-General Grey and Connaught followed a tradition which had been established in Lord Stanley's term and continued by Lord Minto. Donation of a trophy



emblematic of a national championship was deemed to be a worthwhile endeavour in terms of fostering national pride and the sports of rugby and association football were the beneficiaries.



<sup>1</sup>Donald Creighton, The Story of Canada (Toronto: MacMillan Company of Canada, 1965), p. 192.

<sup>2</sup>George W. Brown, Building the Canadian Nation (Toronto: Dent and Sons, 1942), p. 78.

<sup>3</sup>Creighton, op. cit., p. 192.

<sup>4</sup>R. H. Hubbard, Rideau Hall (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1967), p. 115.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., p. 117.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid., p. 115.

<sup>8</sup>Toronto News, 26 April 1905.

<sup>9</sup>John A. Stevenson, Curling in Ontario 1846-1946 (Toronto: Ontario Curling Association, 1950), p. 108.

<sup>10</sup>Toronto News, 28 April 1905.

<sup>11</sup>Ibid.

<sup>12</sup>Ottawa Citizen, 3 January 1907.

<sup>13</sup>Correspondence of Governor-General Grey, (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 II B2, 2 April 1909)

<sup>14</sup>Papers of Governor-General Grey (Ottawa: Public Archives, RG7 G20 Volume 375, #1676)

<sup>15</sup>Kevin Jones, "Sport in Canada, 1900-1920" (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Alberta, 1970) p. 99.

<sup>16</sup>Nancy Howell and Maxwell L. Howell, Sports and Games in Canadian Life 1700 to the Present (Toronto: MacMillan of Canada, 1969), p. 197.



<sup>17</sup> Jones, op. cit., p. 100.

<sup>18</sup> Jones, op. cit., p. 105.

<sup>19</sup> Howell and Howell, op. cit., p. 203.

<sup>20</sup> Ottawa Journal, 6 May 1909.

<sup>21</sup> John Cowan, Canada's Governors-General: Lord Monck to General Vanier (Toronto: York Publishing Company, 1965), p. 95.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., p. 101.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., p. 106.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid., p. 103.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid., p. 104.

<sup>26</sup> Papers of the Duke of Connaught (Ottawa: Government House, papers not yet catalogued or assigned to Public Archives, 11 June 1912).

<sup>27</sup> Ibid., 30 May 1912.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Winnipeg Tribune, 11 July 1912.

<sup>30</sup> Papers of the Duke of Connaught, op. cit., 29 May 1912.

<sup>31</sup> Howell and Howell, op. cit., p. 340.

<sup>32</sup> Manitoba Free Press, 9 August 1912.

<sup>33</sup> Cowan, op. cit., p. 103.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.



<sup>35</sup> Correspondence of Earl Grey, (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 II B2, Volume 30)

<sup>36</sup> Papers of the Duke of Connaught, op. cit., Connaught Cup, Deed of Gift, 24 February 1912.

<sup>37</sup> Papers of the Duke of Connaught, op. cit., Correspondence from Minto Skating Club, 26 February 1933.

<sup>38</sup> Papers of the Duke of Connaught, op. cit., Connaught Cup, Amended Deed of Gift (Not Dated)

<sup>39</sup> Papers of the Duke of Connaught, op. cit., Correspondence from Minto Skating Club, 26 February 1933.

<sup>40</sup> Stevenson, op. cit., p. 123.





Plate 19

Earl of Grey - Canada's  
Ninth Governor-General  
1911-1916





Plate 20      H.R.H. Duke of Connaught  
                  Canada's Tenth Governor-General  
                  1911-1916



## CHAPTER VII

### THE ROLE OF HER EXCELLENCIES IN CANADIAN SPORT

The primary focus of this **thesis** has been the active interest demonstrated by Governors-General in Canadian sport to 1916. As has been continually pointed out, social functions and duties of office encompassed a broad range of sporting activities- a custom established during Lord Dufferin's term of office. However the chatelaines of Rideau Hall often went beyond the traditional expectations of supporting their husbands' interest in recreational and sporting endeavours to the extent that they keenly participated in and actively promoted various sports in their own right.

As evidence of this involvement, it is useful to examine vice-regal routines of the couples prominent in sport. Numerous examples have already been cited emphasizing the role of sport in the social life of Rideau Hall.

Secondly, it is imperative to discuss the trophies for national sports competition which were donated by wives of Governors-General as tangible evidence of this patronage.

Lord Dufferin was very active in sporting activities and in particular winter activities. Lady Dufferin, in her journal gives several accounts of her enthusiastic partic-



ipation in sports including skating and snowshoeing:

4 December 1872- I put on snowshoes for the first time. One's foot looks like a dot in the center of a large racket, and I expected to trip on my own shoes; but I found it quite easy to walk with them, and very amusing.<sup>1</sup>

27 December 1872- We continue every day to practice our skating. I can get on very well with ordinary skating...<sup>2</sup>

8 December 1873- Thermometer eighteen degrees below zero. The day looked dull, but we had a most delightful skate on the Ottawa- clear, smooth ice and any amount of space. I found myself able to go more than a mile as fast as possible on the outside edge.<sup>3</sup>

Lady Dufferin was very popular "and was greatly admired by many persons in Canada wherever the vice-regal couple travelled".<sup>4</sup> She often accompanied her husband to other centres as he performed official functions and duties. It is not surprising that many of these took place in skating and curling rinks.

12 January 1877- (Toronto) In the afternoon we went to the Curling and Skating Rink where an address was read to which he replied in very happy terms. They presented him with curling stones and brooms, and me with a beautiful pair of skates.<sup>5</sup>

Stewart gave this account of the official opening of the Adelaide Street Rink in Toronto:

... This covered rink was built by the Toronto Curling and Skating Club, and, taking advantage of the presence of the Earl and Countess of Dufferin in the city, the committee invited the distinguished visitors to formally open it.<sup>6</sup>



The following account of festivities at the 1873 Montreal carnival was detailed in Lady Dufferin's Journal:

15 January 1873- (Montreal) This evening we attended a snowshoe torchlight procession given in our honor... the sight really was very picturesque and very Canadian: the bright night... hundreds of sleighs... and the gayety (sic) of the whole scene were delightful.<sup>7</sup>

The Vice-Regal Curling Club was very active during Lord Dufferin's term of office and his Governor-General's Prize was much sought after. Unquestionably, the stimulus for the rise in popularity of curling in Canada during the latter half of the nineteenth century was provided by Lord Dufferin. Lady Dufferin took a measure of pride in her membership in the Vice-Regal Curling Club:

11 February 1874- I have been elected a member of the Rink, and am the only lady who holds that proud position, being also, I believe, the first wife of a Governor-General who has ever skated here.

Another first for Lady Dufferin was the opening of the Dominion Rifle Association Matches in 1874:

15 September 1874- We opened the Dominion Rifle Match, and I fired the first shot, and am said to have made a bull's eye...

With the announcement that the Marquis of Lorne would succeed His Excellency Lord Dufferin there was some speculation that because the Marquis was married to Princess Louise, youngest daughter of Queen Victoria, Rideau Hall would lose some of the casual informality which had become



such a hallmark. Nonetheless, the informal skating and tobogganning parties continued, and Sunday walks in winter were regular occurrences.<sup>9</sup>

On St. Valentine's Day of 1880 a serious accident occurred. The covered sleigh in which Their Excellencies were riding was overturned close to the gates. The horses bolted and the sleigh was dragged on its side for some distance.<sup>10</sup>

In his diary, Lorne gave further details of the incident:

L. (Louise) has been much hurt, and it is a wonder that her skull was not fractured... As we pounded along, I expected the sides of the carriage to give way every moment when we should probably been all killed. As it was, L. was the only one much hurt.<sup>11</sup>

As Hubbard stated: "Queen Victoria's displeasure has only to be imagined; and Lorne flatly stated that his wife was henceforth forbidden to winter in Canada".<sup>12</sup>

It was apparent that even during the previous winters spent at Rideau Hall, Princess Louise was interested little in the official duties of her husband as they related to sports. Nor was she actively involved in the contests held at the Vice-Regal Curling Club. Art rather than athletics appealed to her.

Lord and Lady Aberdeen succeeded the Lornes as occupants of Rideau Hall. As noted by Hubbard, both were expert skaters.<sup>13</sup>



Neither Lord Stanley nor his wife, Lady Stanley possessed the same skill at skating. However Hubbard points out that the practice of hosting sleigh rides, skating parties and fancy dress carnivals continued.<sup>14</sup> "Hockey was being played by 1892, when we hear that the ladies were becoming enthusiastic about the matches."<sup>15</sup> One could speculate that there was much interest generated by the Rideau Hall cricket team as they played challenge matches.

Lady Aberdeen's primary interests were philanthropic in nature. She was president of both the International Council of Women and the National Council of Women in Canada. However, winter sporting activities were enjoyed by the vice-regal family. Skiing allegedly was introduced to Canada by a Swedish governess employed by Lady Aberdeen, Ebba Wetterman.<sup>16</sup> Her Excellency's serious misgivings about the game of hockey have been noted previously. Cowan gives this account of a tobogganing incident:

At Rideau Hall, on one occasion, with Lady Aberdeen steering the toboggan, she took Prime Minister Sir Mackenzie Bowell for a ride down the steep slopes to the river beneath...<sup>17</sup>

Lady Aberdeen's successor as first lady of Rideau Hall was Lady Minto who contributed significantly to the recognition of skating on a national scale. In addition to being a very capable skater herself, she promoted skating



in the Dominion by donating the 'Countess of Minto Prize' for national competition.<sup>18</sup> She was instrumental in the founding of the Minto Skating Club in 1906 which has proved to be the home of many fine skaters including world champion Barbara Ann Scott. Lady Minto also suffered a misfortune while at Rideau Hall. She broke a leg while skating in the spring of 1904.<sup>19</sup>

Although Lord Grey supported many aspects of Canadian sport, his wife was not as actively involved as many of her predecessors or successors.

The Duchess of Connaught offered official support for a growing Canadian sport during the twentieth century-golf. The following letter was sent by her Private Secretary to Mr. Charles Read, President of the Royal Canadian Golf Association:

...Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught having heard that the Royal Canadian Golf Association are at present without a Cup for the Ladies' Championship of Canada, desires me to inform you that she would be very glad to give a Challenge Cup for this purpose, should it be agreeable to your Association.<sup>20</sup>

This trophy replaced the "Ross Cup" which was won three consecutive years, 1910-11-12 by Miss Dorothy Campbell and which under the deed of gift became her property.<sup>21</sup>

To summarize, it is apparent that unlike the Governors-General, the first ladies did not establish a distinct trend



toward patronage of sporting activities. As was the case with the former, personalities and individual preferences certainly came into play. However, it is significant that winter sports were instrumental in the daily routines and entertainment at Rideau Hall and that wives of the Governors-General often accompanied their husbands to official openings of sports buildings and festivals. Lastly, tangible evidence in the form of trophies remain as significant support of specific sports.



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<sup>1</sup>Lady Dufferin, My Canadian Journal, (London: John Murray, 1891), p. 52.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., p. 56.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid., p. 134.

<sup>4</sup>John Cowan, Canada's Governors-General: Lord Monck to General Vanier, (Toronto: York Publishing Company, 1965), p. 29.

<sup>5</sup>Lady Dufferin, op. cit., p. 328.

<sup>6</sup>George Stewart, Canada Under the Administration of the Earl of Dufferin, (Toronto: Rose-Belford Publishing Company, 1878) p. 500.

<sup>7</sup>Lady Dufferin, op. cit. p. 62.

<sup>8</sup>Ibid., p. 144.

<sup>9</sup>R. H. Hubbard, Rideau Hall (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1967), p. 51.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid., p. 52.

<sup>11</sup>Lorne Papers, Government House Diary and Engagement Book (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 I B6)

<sup>12</sup>Hubbard, op. cit. p. 53.

<sup>13</sup>Hubbard, loc. cit.

<sup>14</sup>Hubbard, op. cit. p. 77.

<sup>15</sup>Hubbard, loc. cit.

<sup>16</sup>Hubbard, op. cit. p. 83.



<sup>17</sup> Cowan, op. cit. p. 67.

<sup>18</sup> Manitoba Free Press, 19 January 1903.

<sup>19</sup> Hubbard, op. cit. p. 114.

<sup>20</sup> Papers of the Duke of Connaught, (Ottawa: Government House, papers not yet catalogued or assigned to Public Archives) 28 November 1913.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., 25 November 1913.





Plate 21      Harriet, Marchioness of  
Dufferin and Ava  
Circa 1872





Plate 22      Maud, Marchioness of  
Lansdowne





Plate 23      Mary, Countess of Minto



## CHAPTER IX

### RIDEAU HALL: AN ACTIVE SOCIAL CENTER

Rideau Hall, the seat of the Queen's representative in Canada had its beginnings during the time of construction of the Rideau Canal. In 1838, a Scottish stonemason, Thomas MacKay built the stone house measuring seventy-six by forty-seven feet on his hundred-acre estate overlooking both the Ottawa and Rideau rivers.<sup>1</sup> Rideau Hall became Government House in 1864 with the government's move from Quebec City.<sup>2</sup> Since that date there have been numerous alterations to the villa and additions to the grounds- some of which are quite pertinent to this study. The original Rideau Hall "is today almost lost to view among the additions made piecemeal over the past century."<sup>3</sup>

At the time of the government's move to Ottawa, the Governor-General of British North America was Lord Monck. He and his family were appalled with the idea of moving to Ottawa. Frances Monck wrote, "It looks as if it were at t'other end of nowhere, and we felt so out of the way."<sup>4</sup> However the citizens of Ottawa gave the family an enthusiastic welcome to the city in May, 1866 and as the new house and grounds took shape, Moncks' attitude began to change.<sup>5</sup> His letters reveal his liking for the gardens. These are the earliest references to the cricket field and bowling green- among other additions.



Monck's most significant duty in office was the opening of the first Parliament of the new Dominion on the seventh of November 1867. Having settled comfortably by now in Rideau Hall after extensive renovations "the Moncks did the requisite amount of entertaining of members of parliament and senators, but one gains the impression from records of the time that not public but private family affairs dominated the life of the house."<sup>6</sup> There were few large social gatherings.

Hubbard suggests that Monck never gained the popularity with the citizens of the new capital- the establishment of a vice-regal household perhaps having set up social tensions in a small town. However, Lord Monck saw himself, with some justification, as being responsible for 'setting the coach in motion' with respect to the new Dominion, its government and Government House.

Monck's successor Lord Lisgar did little during his three and one-half year term of office to vitalize the office of Governor-General or Rideau Hall itself. He and his wife were not in good health. The obligatory dinners with his ministers and Members of Parliament as guests were described as "gloomy affairs".<sup>7</sup> It would be left to Lisgar's younger and more colourful successor to extend both the house and the entire scope of the Governor-General's activities.<sup>8</sup><sup>7</sup>



Hubbard contends that Dufferin was a very different man from the two public servants who had been his predecessors.

... With his romantic temperament he was just the man to breathe life into his high office... He was also the right man to set a pattern of life at Rideau Hall which has been followed ever since, and to establish the presence of the Governor-General in all parts of the country.<sup>9</sup>

He and his wife took an immediate liking to the people of Ottawa and devised a new system whereby every citizen, not just those in influential political or social positions, could meet the Queen's representative and attend vice-regal functions.<sup>10</sup> This policy of virtually an open invitation was a departure from the precedent which had been established previously.

Sporting and recreational pursuits assumed new importance in Lord Dufferin's term of office as they provided a vehicle for entertaining which would appeal to all age groups. Formal dinners for politicians and officers of state continued as did the musical and dramatic presentations, but by far the most popular and well-attended functions were informal gatherings such as skating parties. In his letter to Lord Lorne, Lord Dufferin outlined the following entertainment arrangements:

For the entertainment of the young men and girls, we made the following possible. Every Saturday Lady Dufferin gave what she called a skating party when all the young people came about three in the afternoon and



spent a couple of hours skating and tobogganing after which we turned them into the ball room with a piano where they danced for a couple of hours more...<sup>11</sup>

Lady Dufferin, in her diary adds this description of a skating party during the Christmas season:

Skating is so very gracedful when well done,... everyone moving about so fast on the ice, and knots of people tobogganing down the hill behind. I had on my skates, but did not feel equal to skating before such experts. When it became cold, we came into the house, drank tea and mulled claret, and danced for an hour. We intend to repeat these parties once a week.<sup>12</sup>

One could vividly picture the large crowds that would gather on such an occasion.

During the winter of 1873 Lord Dufferin opened the curling rink he had built at his own expense at Government House. Earlier references to the Vice-Regal Curling Club indicated that games were held on a regular basis and that Lord Dufferin often entertained politicians at the curling rink. Matches for the Governor-General's Curling Prize brought curlers from various parts of the country to play the final match at Government House.

Summers during Lord Dufferin's term of office, as was the custom for other Governors-General during the parliamentary break, were spent at the Citadel in Quebec City with fishing expeditions a common occurrence. In autumn, extensive traveling was undertaken usually in Eastern Canada and the United States. However the vice-regal family was back in Ottawa for the winter sports. In 1874 a new toboggan slide



provided another source of amusement during the skating parties:

The new slide is most exciting, for, the natural hill not being considered sufficiently steep, a great addition has been made to it. A long flight of stairs now leads to the top of a high wooden slide, and, as this is almost perpendicular, the toboggan starts at a rapid rate down it...<sup>13</sup>

By March, 1876 a large wooden structure, variously called tennis court, tent room and supper room had been built. Dufferin outlined its versatility to Lord Lorne:

... The tennis court as I have already mentioned serves two purposes and is a bigger room than the ball room. When used as a supper room, an enormous tent is fitted up inside it... A few hours are sufficient to remove the tent and to restore the tennis court to its pristine condition.<sup>14</sup>

The last years of Lord Dufferin's term of office witnessed the usual round of winter activities, many parties at Rideau Hall and several visits out of town.<sup>15</sup> An interesting presentation of a gold-headed stick by the cabmen of Ottawa reflected the tremendous trade they had enjoyed as a result of the many entertainments at Rideau Hall.<sup>16</sup>

During their stay in Ottawa the Dufferins had established Rideau Hall as an active social center, accessible to the public and equipped with winter amusement areas which, no doubt, contributed to the success.

Successive Governors-General added a unique flavour to the entertainment at Rideau Hall. However, the precedents established by Lord Dufferin remained constant. Winter



activities continued to be both a regular form of entertainment and recreation for members of the vice-regal family and their staff. Dufferin's successor, Lord Lorne was fond of tobogganing and arranged to have a log hut constructed near the skating rink. MacNutt gives this account of enthusiastic vice-regal hospitality during one of the traditional snow parties:

... Judges of the Supreme Court and elderly senators resorted to the curling rink and divided themselves into teams of Scots and Irish to contend in national rivalries. On the skating rink were the younger set attired in the white blanket coats which had just come into fashion. Despite the keeness of the Governor-General, skating was too difficult for him...<sup>17</sup>

The curling rink continued to be active and this description was given in the Ottawa Citizen:

... The rink is situated in a long shed, lighted at either side by windows, when daylight fades, by gas-jets. The floor is of ice- 42 yards long as smooth as ice may be and as level as a billiard table. The ice is marked at both ends by circles of 'sets'. The 'stones' to be spun along the ice range from 56 to 62 pounds in weight... The ante-rooms at both ends are fitted up for spectators who can witness the play in warmth and comfort through plate glass windows...<sup>18</sup>

In the late spring cricket matches were hosted on the grounds of Rideau Hall with Lord Lorne often captaining an eleven.<sup>19</sup>

During Lord Lansdowne's term of office from 1883 to 1888 social life appeared to be a bit more restrained.<sup>20</sup> However, skating parties continued. This account is given



by H. J. Anjou, aide-de-camp:

Being out of doors, there is practically no limit to the numbers that can be asked. These parties were given in Lord Dufferin and Lord Lorne's time and continued by Lord Lansdowne... Saturday is the best day as business people and politicians are free... Several hundred people are generally present on a fine day.<sup>21</sup>

Skiing was added to the list of attractions to be engaged in during winter festivities at Rideau Hall. During Lord Stanley's time hockey was a popular pastime on several outdoor rinks on the grounds of Rideau Hall. The Stanley albums contain records of many parties and balls including sleigh rides, skating parties and fancy dress carnivals with "attendance numbering one thousand people."<sup>22</sup>

Lord Stanley as did his predecessor, hosted several cricket matches including games between the Rideau Hall team and a team composed of Members of Parliament.

Lord Stanley's successor, Lord Aberdeen, took a keen interest in curling and as Stevenson noted that: "Rideau Hall soon became a busy center of keen curling with Lord Aberdeen demonstrating a first rate knowledge of the fine points of the game."<sup>23</sup> Other winter sports such as tobogganing and skiing amused members of the family and the staff, but the skating parties were not as integral a part of entertaining as proved to be the case during Lord Minto's term. Entertainment appeared to be more formal.



A letter from Lord Minto to his brother indicated the change in Rideau Hall under his administration:

During the last regime at large functions all the drawing rooms were locked up and a huge herd driven into the tennis-court (which was not used for tennis for five years!!) where they were... not allowed to go away till the small hours of the morning... All we have done is to treat them like ladies and gentlemen.<sup>24</sup>

A friend of the Aberdeens, Martin Griffin, the librarian of Parliament indignantly reported to Lady Aberdeen: "The skating people seem to be the only ones their Excellencies care for."<sup>25</sup> Indeed, skating parties were very popular at Rideau Hall with Lord and Lady Minto both expert skaters.

Social functions during Lord Grey's term of office followed the established pattern of past years:

... a couple of dances at Christmas, musicales in Lent, skating and tobogganing every Saturday afternoon during the winter, with moonlight parties of the same description thrown in. Dinners are given frequently, especially during the session of Parliament. A State Ball is held after Easter and several garden parties in the early summer.<sup>26</sup>

Hubbard also states that "... hockey was attracting more and more attention, and skating and curling continued in full force at Rideau Hall".<sup>27</sup>

Lord Grey's successor, the Duke of Connaught was not as actively interested in curling as his predecessors. None-the less he "always evinced keen interest in the contest for his annual trophy and frequently offered hospitalities to



curlers at Rideau Hall."<sup>28</sup> One is led to believe that since the Duke donated an International Skating Trophy and Princess Patricia, his daughter, was an expert skater- skating would be a pivotal winter activity at Government House. Cowan supports this by stating that the Connaughts followed the vice-regal tradition of entering into winter sports with "zest and enthusiasm".<sup>29</sup>

It is evident, therefore, that Rideau Hall was an active social center catering to both the internationally known and the rank and file of Canadian society. It is significant that sporting and recreational activities were an accepted part of the traditional entertainment over the years.



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<sup>1</sup>R. H. Hubbard, Rideau Hall (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1967), p. 9.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., p. 16.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid., p. 10.

<sup>4</sup>Monck Papers, Frances Monck, My Canadian Leaves (Ottawa: Public Archives, p. 152).

<sup>5</sup>Hubbard, op. cit., p. 20.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., p. 22.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid., p. 26.

<sup>8</sup>Ibid., p. 27.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., p. 28.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid., p. 29.

<sup>11</sup>Letter from Lord Dufferin to Lord Lorne (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 I B4, Microfilm Reel A-716: 304-314.)

<sup>12</sup>Lady Dufferin, My Canadian Journal (London: John Murray, 1891), p.

<sup>13</sup>Ibid., 15 December 1874.

<sup>14</sup>Letter from Lord Dufferin to Lord Lorne, loc. cit.

<sup>15</sup>Hubbard, op. cit., p. 45.

<sup>16</sup>Ottawa Journal, 30 April 1897.



<sup>17</sup> W. Stewart MacNutt, Days of Lorne (Fredericton, N.B.: Brunswick Press, 1955), p. 206.

<sup>18</sup> Ottawa Citizen, 19 April 1880.

<sup>19</sup> Lorne Papers, Copies of Family Letters, 1878-1885, (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 I B6) 30 April 1879.

<sup>20</sup> Hubbard, op. cit., p. 72.

<sup>21</sup> Hadob House Records (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 I B6 A823-A827)

<sup>22</sup> Ottawa Citizen, 17 February 1890.

<sup>23</sup> John A. Stevenson, Curling In Ontario 1846-1946 (Toronto: Ontario Curling Association, 1950), p. 92.

<sup>24</sup> Minto Papers, (Ottawa: Public Archives MG27 II B1 Minto to Arthur Elliott, 26 February 1899.

<sup>25</sup> Papers of Lord Aberdeen, (Ottawa: Public Archives, MG27 I B5, Martin Griffin to Lady Aberdeen, 24 June 1899.

<sup>26</sup> Hubbard, op. cit., p. 110.

<sup>27</sup> Hubbard, op. cit., p. 117.

<sup>28</sup> Stevenson, op. cit., p. 123.

<sup>29</sup> Cowan, op. cit., p. 103.





Plate 24      Rideau Hall from the Gardens  
(after 1882)



Plate 25      Skiing at Rideau Hall  
circa 1895





Plate 26      A View of Rideau Hall, the  
Curling and Skating Rinks  
(Before 1882)



Plate 27      Tobogganning at Rideau Hall





A PARTY OF SNOWSHOERS AT RIDEAU HALL, OTTAWA  
From a photograph by Topley

Plate 28      A Party of Snowshoers at  
                    Rideau Hall  
                    1880



Plate 29      A Skating Party at Rideau Hall  
                    circa 1900



## CHAPTER X

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

It is impossible to consider an isolated aspect of post-Confederation sport history without reference to the historical backdrop or social scene of which it is a part. Tremendous growth and development in many aspects of Canadian life followed formation of the Dominion. A new industrial movement which revolutionized the status quo attracted an increasing number of native sons to the urban centres. Improved methods of transportation facilitated closer communication. While the eastern cities were becoming focal points of innovations and industrial initiatives, this was in sharp contrast to development in other areas of the country. The patchwork Dominion reflected a depressed east coast with the decline of shipbuilding and coal industries; a west coast largely dependent on fishing, lumbering and later mining and a vast prairie wilderness with large tracts of uninhabited land. Ethnic differences contributed to the patch-work nation with isolated settlements establishing traditional lifestyles. In the east, the French and English ways of life had a permanent character and the American influence was having far-reaching effects.

The political act of Confederation could not create a uniform social setting. Differing geography dictated these



changes. In the west, sports and games were diversionary in nature serving to relax the hard-working settlers. In the east, with the frontier experience behind, there was more leisure time for recreation. Sports and games, which in the past were a source of diversion from stress and labour, by now had become more rationalized; clubs and associations were formulating guidelines for competition; improved transportation was facilitating inter-club matches and fostering rivalries; and more sophisticated communication methods were elevating gifted athletes to the pedestal of folk heroes. The growing sport associations would find it advantageous to be able to boast of support by the 'number one man' in the country- the Governor-General. Vice-regal patronage of Canadian sport was a significant reality in the latter half of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Closer examination of the make-up of vice-regal patronage reveals the significance of two elements; first, the British Sporting Tradition Theme and second, the Canadian Nationalism Theme. These will be reviewed in turn.

Governors-General Dufferin (1872-1878) to Connaught (1911-1916) supported traditionally British sports, i.e. rowing, cricket, association and rugby football and golf, and a most notable addition to this list by virtue



of its ethnic origin was the Scottish sport of curling. One need not look far for the historical significance of the British influence on nineteenth-century Canadian sport. Britain's tendency to develop sports to a high degree and organize them to facilitate competition was diffused to Canada (then British North America) by explorers, colonists and the military. Leisure-time pursuits of the British were carried on in the new land. In the post-Confederation era, British-born or their descendants continued to be in the forefront of a rapidly expanding Canadian sports scene. Therefore, several Governors-General, whose leisure activities were followed with interest by the public, participated in and endorsed many of these sports.

Related to this British Sporting Tradition Theme is the early personal sporting experience of the Governors-General themselves. Each was educated at a private school followed by a university or military school education. Virtually a paradigm of the British aristocracy- it is reasonable to assume that the vice-regal tradition in Canada had an association with sports of the British school system. Logically, sports from early schooling would be pursued where possible in



Canada if sufficient interest was generated.

Governors-General Lorne, Lansdowne and Stanley showed a keen interest in cricket and incorporated the game in the leisure activities at Rideau Hall. Aberdeen and Connaught promoted golf and the latter provided a trophy for association football. Rowing was a highly popular spectator sport while Dufferin and Lorne were in office. Awarding of medals to Canadian greats such as Ned Hanlan have been documented. Each successive Governor-General from Lord Dufferin has been Patron of the Ontario Curling Association and each contributed in some measure to the success of the growing sport. Dufferin and Lorne initiated prizes, the terms of which were altered by Aberdeen and Stanley. Each hosted the finals for the Governor-General's prize and a significant event took place in 1902 when a team of Scottish curlers toured Canada. This was facilitated by Lord Minto

A second pervasive theme in this study of vice-regal patronage is that of Canadian Nationalism. Moulding the new Canada in the years after Confederation demanded an enthusiastic effort from its people. Therefore it was logical that the country should have its own games and pastimes reflecting this spirit. This was very much a function of climate and geography



which influenced the selection and development of games and sports.

Ice hockey and lacrosse were two games which were viewed to be Canadian in origin. From hockey's earliest roots it progressed through various stages of organization; rule interpretation and equipment changes to the level of national competition for a trophy donated by Lord Stanley.

Adapted as Canada's national game in the year of Confederation, lacrosse enjoyed great popularity. As was the case with hockey, rule changes and organization promoted an interest in the sport and engendered community rivalries- undoubtedly fanned by nationality and religious differences. Lacrosse, during the post-Confederation half-century was Canada's most popular team sport. In 1901 Lord Minto donated a cup emblematic of the Dominion Lacrosse Championship.

Winter sports were followed with interest by each Governor-General. Skating, tobogganning, skiing and snowshoeing were incorporated into the winter daily schedule at Rideau Hall and facilities were added to permit entertainment of large groups. During Dufferin's term a curling and skating rink, and artificial toboggan slide were constructed. Dufferin and Minto were exceptionally good skaters; the latter having formed



the Minto Skating Club and awarded trophies for competitive skating.

Pursuit of novel Canadian winter activities was thought by some to foster a superior race of people. The Northern Theme as it was referred to by writers in the 1870's was largely a myth, however, winter sports unquestionably had a large following during these years. Examples have been shown to illustrate that Governors-General promoted activities and sports which represented the potential and challenging vastness of Canada.

By the turn of the century with available modes of transportation and progressive organization of many sports there was an movement to declare national champions in many sports. Once a sport was taken up, then clubs were formed and competition followed to the local, provincial and even national level. Community pride fostered pursuit of a Dominion championship and the game itself was a symbolic national gesture.

Governors-General promoted the spirit of national competition by donating trophies for several sports- Stanley- hockey; Grey- Canadian Rugby Football; Minto- lacrosse and skating; Aberdeen- golf; Connaught- soccer; and Dufferin- curling are notable examples.



In keeping with the Canadian Nationalism Theme, several vice-regal figures actively facilitated tours of teams from other countries and Canadian teams abroad. The earliest of these were Dr. Beers' lacrosse tours of England in 1867, 1876 and 1883. In 1868, 1872 and 1879 visiting cricket teams from England toured Canada and a Canadian team reciprocated in 1887. However, the most excitement was generated by a Scottish curling team in 1902. For many years Canadians had been waiting for an opportunity to test their skill against the game's innovators. Lord Minto was instrumental in arranging the tour.

Having stated that vice-regal patronage was extended either as part of the British sporting tradition in Canada by a British officer of the Crown; or to promote a national Canadian spirit, it becomes necessary to examine the characteristics of this patronage. In what form was it presented?

Examples of patronage were varied. One such method was formal association of a purely official nature. Many examples have been shown where groups and associations would request permission from the Governor-General to use his name as Honorary Patron on a list of officers or at an annual function (See Dufferin- Snowshoe Races, Yachting Clubs, Caledonian



Society; Lorne- Montreal Caledonian Society, Ottawa  
Tennis and Lawn Bowling Club)

In the case of some sports, i.e. curling and rifle shooting, His Excellency was an active Patron who often attended annual meetings and was involved in decisions regarding distribution of the awards. Each Governor-General from Dufferin to Connaught enthusiastically supported the goals of the Dominion Rifle Association with para-military implications and in turn each tried to draw a larger number of participants from across the Dominion by offering medals and prizes. Curling was a sport which seemed to attract an unusual amount of vice-regal attention over the years. Several Governors-General were well-skilled and all assumed the role of Patron.

Many Governors-General were actively involved in the sports and participated enthusiastically in them. (Curling- Dufferin, Lorne and Aberdeen; skating- Dufferin, Connaught and Minto; Cricket- Lansdowne and Stanley; Tennis- Dufferin and Lorne) Related to this was the significance of Rideau Hall as an active social center. Sport and leisure activities formed an essential part of winter entertainment. Skiing, snowshoeing, tobogganning, skating and curling



were a constant source of amusement for members of the vice-regal household and guests.

Wives of Governors-General played an important role in the patronage of sport. Some, notably Lady Minto, Lady Dufferin and the Duchess of Connaught actively participated in such activities as skating and golf. The diaries of Lady Dufferin and Lady Aberdeen help to clarify the extent of vice-regal involvement in sport.

Finally, trophies and awards were a tangible form of vice-regal patronage of sport. Presentation of medals, initiated by Lord Dufferin, gave the public an opportunity of seeing the Governor-General as a supporter of sports. Vice-regal attendance at skating and rowing competitions drew large numbers of followers. Examples of national trophies for national sports competition have been listed elsewhere in this chapter. These are significant because it is these trophies which first come to mind in association with particular Governors-General. (i.e. Stanley- hockey; Grey- football) They remain as a lasting memorial tribute to their donors. However, it would be an oversight not to address a problem which has arisen with these major awards. The original deeds of gift stipulated they were to be based on amateur competition and yet today



these are competed for by professional teams conducting big business operations. Is the original intent of presentation being undermined? It can be argued that the trend toward professionalism was a natural out-growth of inter-community competition- an irreversible movement. The trustees of the trophies must have felt that within certain restrictions the interests of the office of the Governor-General were protected. However, one could not be certain of Lord Stanley's reaction to a New York Islander - New York Ranger final or Earl Grey's impressions of an Eskimo - Alouette final at Olympic Stadium.

Hopefully, this study will fill a void in the continuing study of Canadian sport history. Avenues remain for a similar study of Governors-General from 1916 to present date and of other selected political figures. There may be a historical link with the present practice of financing sport through the public purse. In any event, the years from 1867-1916 witnessed tremendous growth in organized sport and leisure activites. Patronage on the part of Canada's Governors-General, whose involvement went far beyond their official duties, played a significant role.



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## Appendix A

The Governors-General of Canada 1867-1916

1861-1868	Sir Charles Stanley, 4th Viscount Monck
1868-1872	Sir John Young, Baron Lisgar
1872-1878	Frederick Temple Hamilton-Temple-Blackwood, 1st Marquis of Dufferin and Ava
1878-1883	John Douglas Sutherland Campbell, Marquis of Lorne
1883-1888	Henry Charles Keith Petty-Fitzmaurice, 5th Marquis of Lansdowne
1888-1893	Frederick Arthur Stanley, Baron Stanley of Preston
1893-1898	John Campbell Hamilton-Gordon, Earl and later 1st Marquis of Aberdeen
1898-1904	Gilbert John Murray-Kynynmod Elliot, 4th Earl of Minto
1904-1911	Albert Henry George, 4th Earl of Grey
1911-1916	Arthur William Patrick Albert, H.R.H. Duke of Connaught







1873. Gold medal . . Silver "Oricle."  
 1873. Gold medal . . Silver "Gaud."  
 do do . . Silver "Gaud."  
 do do . . "Iota."  
 Bronze do . . "Gipsy."  
 Silver do . . "Lady Stanley."  
 Four-oared Race  
 1873. Bronze medal . . C. Nurse.  
 do do . . R. J. Tinning.  
 do do . . W. Hillon.  
 do do . . R. Tinning.

ROYAL CANADIAN YACHT CLUB,  
 TORONTO.

1874. Gold medal . . Schr. "Oricle."  
 Silver do . . "Brunette."  
 Bronze do . . "Saunterer."  
 1876. Gold do . . "Annie Cuthbert."  
 Silver do . . "Katie Gray."  
 Bronze do . . "Brunette."

NEW DOMINION ROWING CLUB, TORONTO.  
 Challenge.  
 1874. Silver medal.

TORONTO ROWING CLUB.  
 Challenge.  
 1874. Silver medal.

ARGONAUTIC ROWING CLUB, TORONTO.  
 Challenge.  
 1874. Silver medal.

YACHT CLUB, BROCKVILLE.  
 1878. Silver medal.

REGATTA, ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.  
 1874. Silver medal . . Alex. Brayley.

ROYAL HALIFAX YACHT CLUB, NOVA S.  
 1874. Silver medal . . R. W. Armstrong.  
 Bronze do . . Samuel Norris.  
 1875. Silver do . . "Squirrel"--R. F.  
 Armstrong.  
 Bronze do . . "Cloud"--A. W.  
 Scott.

HILLSBRO' BOATING CLUB, P. E. I.  
 Challenge Medal, winner to receive  
 Bronze Medal.  
 1874. Silver medal . . Sent to J. E. Har-  
 zard.  
 Bronze do . . Wm. Dean.

REGATTA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.  
 1875. Silver medal . . H. Stewart.  
 Bronze do . . J. Cotsford.  
 1876. Silver do . . John Cotsford.  
 Bronze do . . E. J. Wall.  
 1877. Silver do . . Henry Stewart.  
 Bronze do . . John Cotsford.

DOMINION ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION.  
 Competition between A and B Batteries.

1876. Bronze medal . . Bomb. G. Adams.  
 1876. Bronze medal . . Bomb. T. G. Lais-  
 ter, "B" Battery.  
 1877. Bronze do . . Bomb. G. Adams  
 "A" Battery.

RIFLE ASSOCIATION, NOVA SCOTIA.

1876. Silver medal . . E. Eaton, 68th  
 Bat.  
 Bronze do . . E. C. Wallace,  
 78th Bat.  
 1877. Silver do . . Sergt. P. Hickey.  
 Bronze do . . Lient. B. A. West-  
 ton.

RIFLE ASSOCIATION, MANITOBA.

1876. Silver medal . . T. P. Murray.  
 Bronze do . . J. R. McIntyre.  
 1877. Silver do . . E. C. Smith.  
 Bronze do . . William Fraser.

REGATTA, GODERICH FISHERMEN.

1876. Bronze medal . . Wm. McGaw,  
 owner of the  
 "Water Lily."

SWIMMING RACES AT TORONTO.

1877. Silver medal . . A. D. Stewart.  
 Bronze do . . G. F. Warwick.

FOR THE BEST ESSAY ON ARTILLERY  
 MATERIAL.

1877. Bronze medal . . Lient.-Col. C. E.  
 Montizambert,  
 "B" Battery,  
 Quebec.

FOR SAVING LIFE FROM DROWNING.

Medal publicly presented by the Lt.  
 Governor of Nova Scotia.

1877. Bronze medal . . Willie Francis.

LIEUT.-COLONEL GEO. T. DENISON.

Bronze Medal presented to Colonel  
 Denison in recognition of his having  
 won the prize offered by the Czar of  
 Russia for the best Essay on the His-  
 tory of Cavalry.

FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF FARMING  
 AMONG THE ICELANDERS.

1878. Silver medal.  
 Bronze do.

DOMINION DAY CELEBRATION AT  
 OTTAWA.

1878. Silver medal.  
 Bronze do.

THE ROVER FOOTBALL CLUB, QUEBEC.

1878. Bronze medal . . Sent to G. T. Cary,  
 Quebec Mercury.

CHAMPION SCULLER.

1878. Gold medal . . Edward Hurlan.



## APPENDIX 'C'

LIST OF TROPHIES, PRIZES AND CUPS AWARDED BY  
GOVERNORS-GENERAL 1867-1916

Lord Dufferin 1872-1878

Governor-General Medals 1874  
 (Awarded for skating, curling, rifle shooting, cricket, quoiting, yachting, rowing, swimming and football)

Governor-General's Curling Prize  
 (For competition in the Canadian Branch of the Royal Caledonian Club)  
 Instituted by Lord Dufferin but not awarded until 1880

Lord Lorne 1878-1883

Governor-General's Silver Cups 1881  
 (Awarded for iron-playing and stone-playing curling clubs of Canada)

Dominion Rifle Association Prizes 1883  
 (Prize money was increased to encourage participation by distant provinces)

Marquis of Lansdowne 1883-1888

Lansdowne Cup 1888  
 (Awarded for competition by the Dominion Rifle Association)

Lord Stanley 1888-1893

Stanley Cup 1894  
 (Awarded for the Dominion Hockey Championship - amateur)



Marquis of Aberdeen      1893-1898

Governor-General's Prize- Ontario Curling Association      1894  
 (Awarded to the winner of the competitions held within its jurisdiction - Lord Aberdeen as Patron)

Aberdeen Cup      1895  
 (Canadian Amateur Golf Championship)

Earl of Minto      1898-1904

Lord Minto's Challenge Cup for Skating

The Countess of Minto's Prize for Ladies' Skating      1903

Twin Challenge Cups for Combined Skating

Minto Cup      1901  
 (Awarded for the National Senior Lacrosse Championship)

Earl of Grey      1904-1911

Grey Cup      1909  
 (Challenge Cup for the Amateur Rugby Football Championship of Canada)

Cup presented by Lord Grey  
 (Amateur Golf Championship of Canada)

Duke of Connaught      1911-1916

Connaught Cup for the Dominion of Canada Football Association      1912

Connaught Cup for International Figure Skating      1912

Challenge Cup to the Ontario Jockey Club

Challenge Cup to the Montreal Jockey Club

Duchess of Connaught Championship Cup- Ladies' Golf Championship of Canada



## APPENDIX 'D'

Correspondence from the Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron listing Governor-General Dufferin's Patronage - Records of the Office of the Governor-General, RG7 G14, Volume 32A  
Public Archives of Canada.



190  
NOVA SCOTIA YACHT SQUADRON.

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Station: HALIFAX.

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COMMODORE.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF DUFFERIN, GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

VICE-COMMODORE.

S. A. WHITE

REAR-COMMODORE.

J. W. STAIRS.

HONORARY SECRETARY.

F. C. SUMICHRAST.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

THE FLAG OFFICERS AND SECRETARY, *ex officio.*

F. M. PASSOW. J. E. BUTLER.

H. ST. G. TWINING. D. C. CHALMERS.

A. C. EDWARDS.

SAILING COMMITTEE.

THE FLAG OFFICERS AND SECRETARY, *ex officio.*

Lt. Col. H. W. CLERKE. G. A. BLACK.

D. CRONAN. G. E. CAPEL CURE. 20TH REGT.

L. BRIAND.

MEASURERS.

J. E. BUTLER. W. H. TROOP.



APPENDIX 'E'

Correspondence from Her Majesty the Queen,  
Records of the Office of the Governor-General,  
RG7 G13 Volume 12F, Public Archives of Canada.



Montreal Telegraph Company,

General Office, 100, rue Sainte-Catherine, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Delivery ..... Local in ..... Dispatched ..... 1000

Check ..... JAN 21 1876 SING

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No. ..... Time ..... Ottawa June 27<sup>th</sup> 1876

By Telegraph from Cable

To Governor General

Ottawa. Canada.

The Canadians and Indians  
played their game of Lacrosse  
before me here yesterday.

The Queen

1974 undated



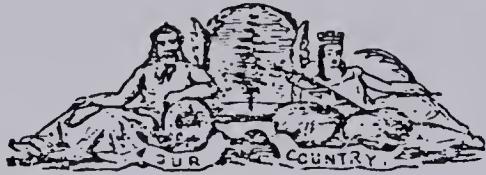
APPENDIX 'F'

Papers of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association, MG28 I 128 Volume 14, p. 17,  
Public Archives of Canada

Patronage of Governor-General Dufferin  
granted to the Ottawa Snow shoe Races



THE OTTAWA



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# SNOW SHOE RACES!

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE OF

His Excellency the Gov. General!

—WILL TAKE PLACE ON—

SATURDAY, MARCH 8th, 1873.

AT MUTCHEMOR'S DRIVING PARK, BANK STREET.

PRESIDENT:

T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, ESQ.

VICE PRESIDENTS:

W. MCKAY WRIGHT, ESQ., M. P. | GODFREY P. BAKER, ESQ.

COMMITTEE:

REV. T. D. PHILLIPS, M. A. | M. KAVANAGH, ESQ.  
R. J. DEVLIN, ESQ. | JOHN WALSH, ESQ.

R. S. CASSELS, ESQ.

EDWARD C. BARBER, ESQ., HON. SECRETARY.

PRIVY COUNCIL PRIZE:

*Presented by the Hon. the Members of the Privy Council of Canada.*

1st. Prize, ... GOLD MEDAL..... 2nd. \$15.00..... 3rd. \$10.00

One Mile. Entrance, 50 cents; open to all Members of regularly organized Snow Shoe Clubs.

CORPORATION PRIZE:

*Presented by the Corporation of the City of Ottawa.*

1st. Prize, ... GOLD MEDAL..... 2nd. Prize, \$15.00..... 3rd. Prize, \$10.00.

Open to all. Half a Mile. Entrance, 50 cents;

PIONEER SNOW SHOE CLUB PRIZE:

1st. Prize, ... GOLD MEDAL, Presented by Wm. YOUNG, ESQ. 2nd. Prize, \$10.00. 3rd. Prize, \$5.00

Open to Members. Quarter Mile. Entrance 50 cents.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S PRIZE:

Champion Gold Medal, Presented by His EXCELLENCY, LORD DUFFERIN, H. C. B., &c., &c.

Open to Amateurs who are Members of regularly organized Snow Shoe Clubs. Two Miles, a portion to be through deep Snow. Entrance, 50 cents.

Indian Race, - - in War Costume, - - Two Miles.

1st. Prize, \$15.00..... 2nd. Prize, \$10.00..... 3rd. Prize, \$5.00.

The President's Prize, Presented by T. Douglas Harrington, Esq.

1st. Prize, ... GOLD MEDAL..... 2nd. Prize, SILVER MEDAL..... 3rd. Prize, \$10.00

Open to all Members of regularly organized Snow Shoe Clubs. 120 Yards—heats—over Hurdles. Entrance, 50 cents.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. The code of Rules adopted at the Montreal Convention in 1870, to govern all races.
2. SEALED ENTRIES to be made to the Hon. Secretary, at the Russell House, before 7 o'clock on Friday, 7th March.
3. Races to Commence at Half past One. Any Competitor not answering to his name when called will be ruled out.



APPENDIX 'G'

Correspondence from the Ottawa Cricket Club  
to Governor-General Dufferin  
Records of the Office of the Governor-General,  
RG7 G14 Volume 32B  
Public Archives of Canada.



Ottawa June 5<sup>th</sup> 1878

Sir

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I beg to tender to his Excellency  
the Earl of Dufferin, the heartfelt  
thanks of the members of the Ottawa  
Basket Club, for his Excellency's past  
kindnesses and patronage; also to  
express our deep regret at the approaching  
departure of his Lordship and his  
amiable and popular Countess.  
Wishing their Excellencies a  
hearty "God-speed" in all their  
undertakings

I have the honor to be  
Yours Obediently  
J. H. Brophy  
Secy. O.C.C.

Br. Col. the Hon. G. P. Lytleton  
Govt Secy. Secy.  
Ottawa



## APPENDIX 'H'

Programme of the Montreal Caledonian Society  
(Honorary Patron- the Marquis of Lorne)  
from the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association  
Papers, MG28 I 128 Vol. 15 p. 334.  
Public Archives of Canada.



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MONTRÉAL  
CALLEDONIAN SOCIETY.

Honorary Patron:  
HIS EXCELLENCY THE MARQUIS OF LORNE

The

25th

Annual



EXHIBITIONED

AND

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

WILL BE HELD ON THE

MONTRÉAL LACROSSE GROUNDS,  
SHERBROOKE STREET,

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND, 1880

(DURING EXHIBITION WEEK)

—♦—  
BAND.

Pipers and Drummers of the 5th Royal Scots  
Fusiliers Highlanders.

TICKETS OF ADMISSION.—ADULTS, 25c.; CHILDREN under 12 years, half price; Extra Pavillion Chairs, 25c.

GRAND STAND.—ADULTS, 15c.; and CHILDREN under 12 years, 10c.

CARRIAGES, 50c.

TICKETS to be had at the usual places, and at the gate on the day of the Gathering.

P. O. Box 869.

JOHN HOOD,  
Secretary.



APPENDIX 'I'

Return of Scores of the Governor-General's  
Curling Competition - 1881

Records of the Office of the Governor-General

RG7 G14 Volume 32B

Public Archives of Canada



1884.

## RETURN OF SCORES

— OF THE —

SEVERAL CURLING CLUBS COMPETING FOR THE CUPS AND MEDALS

— PRESENTED BY —

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA.

NAMES OF CLUBS PLAYING WITH IRON.	TOTAL SCORE.	AVERAGE PER MAN.	UMPIRE.
QUEBEC C. C.....	94	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	C. A. BURN, Three Rivers C. C.
MONTREAL C. C. ....	88	11	JAMES REID, Montreal Thistle.
OTTAWA C. C. ....	64	8	W.M. ROBERTSON, Gov. General's C. C.
MONTREAL THISTLE C. C.	57	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	DAVID BROWN, Caledonian C. C.
ARNPRIOR C. C. ....	55	6 $\frac{7}{8}$	J. H. WALFORD, Renfrew C. C.



APPENDIX 'J'

Correspondence from Lord Derby (Son of Lord Stanley) to Major J.S. Matthews regarding the Stanley Cup

Public Archives of Canada, Special Sport History Display, Co-ordinator- G. Cummings, C-83779.



KNOWSLEY,  
PRESOT,  
LANCASHIRE.

17th July 1942

Dear Major Matthews.

After some delay your letter of the 3rd June at last reached me, and I write to thank you very sincerely for your most interesting description of the competition for the Stanley Cup.

I remember so well its initiation. It was in connection with a small body of ice hockey enthusiasts, of whom 4 or 5 at least, if not more, were members of the staff of my father Lord Stanley of Preston, then Governor General of Canada. We formed a team of ourselves, not too well looked upon by the authorities, and I think our name "The Rebels" shows very clearly the feelings that existed amongst other hockey players towards us. However, gradually any prejudice there was died down, and I am glad to think that from that very small beginning there has developed the present contest for the Stanley Cup, which you tell me is now the greatest ice hockey competition in North America, which really means in the world.

I am proud to think that my father's name should be coupled with the competition, which has always been quite an event since it was initiated, and is now an equally great event in that much larger field of all Canada.

I should think I am the only one of the original "Rebels" who is still living. At least, I should be very glad to hear of any other. Certainly all those who were on my father's staff have gone. How pleased they would have been to know that the competition would be continued long after they were gone, and the mere thought of it connects me with one of the happiest times of my life. Long may the competition go on, and I wish there were any chance of my once again seeing the game played in its natural home and birthplace, Canada.

I hope the young generation as they grow up will keep the game going. It is a typical representative game of what is now one of the greatest parts of our British Empire, and we are all very deeply indebted to Canada in more ways than one. My very best wishes to you, and all connected with the administration of Canadian affairs.

Yours sincerely  
John S. Matthews, V.D.

Major J.S. Matthews, V.D.



APPENDIX 'K'

Correspondence from the Dominion of Canada  
Football Association to H.R.H. the Duke of  
Connaught re: Connaught Cup  
Papers of the Duke of Connaught. Ottawa;  
Government House.



Hon. President  
D. PRATT, WINNIPEG  
President  
FRED. BARTER MONTREAL  
Hon. Secretary-Treasurer  
TOM ROBERTSON  
22 SCOLLARD STREET  
TORONTO

# Dominion of Canada Football Association

Q.P

Provincial Vice-Presidents  
DR. J. G. DAVIDSON, BRITISH COLUMBIA  
J. W. WARD, ALBERTA  
D. A. GRANT SASKATCHEWAN  
SAMUEL LARKIN, MANITOBA  
DR. W. A. DEVITT, ONTARIO  
FRED. R. DAVIES, QUEBEC  
DR. H. G. JOHNSON, MARITIME PROV'S

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Toronto, June 22nd, 1912.

Arthur F. Sladen, Esq., C. M. G.,

Private Secretary to His Royal Highness,

The Governor General of Canada,

Rideau Hall, Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir:-

On behalf of the Dominion of Canada Football Association I desire to express to His Royal Highness our appreciation of the honour he has conferred upon us by becoming a patron of our Organization and to tender to him our sincere thanks for his most generous offer of a Challenge Trophy emblematic of the Football Championship of Canada. The "Connaught Cup" will be the means of awakening a spirit of keen interest and enthusiasm for Association Football throughout our Dominion.

On July 9th. next a meeting of this Association will be held in Winnipeg, when the Rules governing the conditions for Competition will be discussed; a copy of these Rules will then be submitted for the approval of His Royal Highness.

I have the honour to be,

Yours very respectfully,

Tom Robertson  
Hon. Secretary Treasurer.



APPENDIX 'K'

Amended Deed of Gift for the 'Connaught Cup  
Papers of the Duke of Connaught, Ottawa:  
Government House



## Amended Deed of Gift.

With a view to the general encouragement and development of skating in combination by pairs and individuals, and more particularly with a view to the encouragement and development of "combined skating" along the lines at present approved by the National Skating Association of Great Britain in the general style and pose approved by the International Skating Union, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Governor General of Canada, hereby gives and assigns to the trustees hereinafter mentioned and their successors in trust, a trophy to be held by them upon the following trusts and subject to the following conditions, that is to say:

1. The trophy shall be known as the "Connaught Cup".
2. The trophy shall be vested in and held by a board of three trustees (hereinafter called the trustees), which shall consist of:
  - (a) Colonel Lowther or other the official secretary for the time being of the present or any future Governor General of Canada;
  - (b) General Mackenzie and Mr. John Thompson, both of the City of Ottawa, Canada, who shall hold office until their substitutes are appointed under the provisions hereof.
3. The Council of the Figure Skating Department of The Amateur Skating Association of Canada shall at its annual meeting assembled appoint one person to act as a second trustee for the ensuing year in the place and stead of the first trustee named in paragraph 2(b). The third trustee shall be the President of the Ninto Skating Club of Ottawa, for the time being, in the place and stead of the second trustee named in paragraph 2(b).
4. In the event of any temporary vacancy occurring among the trustees, the remaining trustees or trustee shall have power to act notwithstanding such vacancy.
5. In the event of the skating organizations named in paragraph (3), or either of them becoming defunct, the trophy shall revert to the Governor General of Canada for the time being.
6. The trophy shall be open to competition by teams of four individuals consisting of two ladies and two gentlemen, being members of any one amateur skating club in Canada, the United States of America, or elsewhere. Provided, however, that such club is a member of The Figure Skating Department of the Amateur Skating Association of Canada, The United States Figure Skating Association, or associated with The International Skating Union.
7. Each member of any team desiring to compete for the trophy must be a bona fide amateur to the satisfaction of the trustees. For the purpose hereof, an amateur shall mean an amateur as defined from time to time by The Figure Skating Department of the Amateur Skating Association of Canada.
8. The rulings of the trustees with regard to eligibility of competitors shall be final and conclusive.



9. Competitions for the trophy shall be in Canada or the United States of America, under the auspices of the amateur skating club, which is appointed to hold the North American Figure Skating Championships meet, such club being appointed by the North American Figure Skating Championship Committee, which said committee is appointed jointly by the Figure Skating Department of the Amateur Skating Association of Canada and the United States Figure Skating Association.

10. Competitions shall be held at least once in every two years.

11. Subject to the provisions hereof, and of the rules and regulations made hereunder, the trophy, when won at any competition, shall remain in the custody of the club to which the winning team shall belong, until the next competitions, provided representatives of that club shall undertake in writing to return the cup in as good condition as that in which they received it, or to be answerable for any cost to which the trustees may be put for its complete restoration.

12. If for any competition no team shall enter or be prepared to compete, the trophy shall be immediately returned to the trustees.

13. If for any competition only one team shall be prepared to compete and shall skate the prescribed programme, the club to which the team belongs shall be awarded the custody of the trophy until the next competition, but no championship medals shall be awarded to the members of the team, nor shall any names be engraved upon the trophy for that competition.

14. If for any reason the North American Figure Skating Championships competition is not held at the usual two year interval, the Club having the custody of the Trophy for the time being shall return it to the Trustees to be held until the next North American Figure Skating Championships Competition takes place. Provided, however, that the Trustees in such event and from time to time at two year intervals, if such event recurs, shall have power by unanimous decision to sanction the holding of a competition for the trophy under the auspices of the Club appointed to hold the Canadian Figure Skating Championship Competition for the current season or under the auspices of The Minto Skating Club at Ottawa.

15. For all competitions the judges shall be those appointed for North American Figure Skating Championships competition. The number of judges shall be not less than three and not more than seven. The judges shall be from among the list of judges appointed by the Figure Skating Department of the Amateur Skating Association of Canada and the United States Figure Skating Association, as being qualified to judge the Canadian Figure Skating Championships and the United States of America Figure Skating Championships, respectively.

16. All expenses incidental to any competition, including the providing of individual prizes or medals for the members of the winning team, shall be borne by the club holding the competition.

17. All competitions for the trophy, and the figures and the programme to be skated thereat and the arrangements, therefore, shall be subject to the approval of the trustees.

18. The trustees shall be charged with the general supervision of the trophy, and with the carrying into effect of the objects of this Deed of Gift.



19. For the purposes of the aforesaid, and for the carrying out of the objects hereof, the trustees shall approve of the rules and regulations under which the competition for the trophy is carried out. 208

20. In the event of any question arising as to the proper interpretation hereof, or of any of the rules and regulations made hereunder, the decision of the trustees shall be final and conclusive.

21. The conditions herein contained shall supersede and be in substitution of the conditions set out in the original Deed of Gift dated the First day of January, 1912.

DATED at



APPENDIX 'M'

Deed of Gift for the Duchess of Connaught  
Championship Trophy



*This is duplicate of document sent to  
H.R.H. of Royal Can. Golf Assn. - A.S.*

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT having signified her gracious intention of presenting a Cup to THE ROYAL CANADIAN GOLF ASSOCIATION to be competed for each year at the Ladies' Annual Meeting, and to be known as THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT CHAMPIONSHIP CUP OR TROPHY,

The terms upon which the Cup is presented are as follows:-

The Cup to become the property of The Royal Canadian Golf Association and to be the perpetual Championship Trophy, and is to be competed for annually under the rules of The Royal Canadian Golf Association at the Ladies' Annual Meeting,

The name of the winner of the championship of each year and also the name of the Club the winner represents are to be engraved on the Cup,

The winner to be allowed to retain possession of the Cup until ten days before the date fixed for the next Annual Competition, the Cup then to be returned to the Secretary of the Association,

Before being allowed to take possession of the Cup the winner is to enter into a bond with sureties satisfactory to the Executive of The Royal Canadian Golf Association, agreeing to return the Cup by the date above specified, or in case of accident of any kind whatsoever making it impossible to return the Cup, the Cup is to be replaced by as an exact a duplicate as it is possible to obtain.

The Cup under no circumstances whatever is to be allowed to be taken out of Canada.

Confirmed for and on  
behalf of

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE ROYAL CANADIAN GOLF ASSOCIATION,

*Arthur St. Leger*  
Hon. Sec'y-Treasurer.

THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT

*Arthur St. Leger*  
Private Secretary.

*Foot House*

*Ottawa*  
*17 Jan '14*



#### APPENDIX 'N'

#### VICE-REGAL PATRONAGE OF CANADIAN SPORT - A CHRONOLOGY

Sources used: Schrodt, B.; Redmond, G.; and Baka, R.;  
Sport Canadiana, (Edmonton: Executive  
Sport Publications, 1980)  
Toivo Kiil, (ed.), Canada's Illustrated  
Heritage, (Toronto: Natural Science of  
Canada Limited, 1977)



## VICE-REGAL PATRONAGE OF CANADIAN SPORT - A CHRONOLOGY

GOVERNORS-GENERAL and SPORT	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CDN. SPORT HISTORY	YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
Viscount Monck becomes first Governor-General	Canadian Lacrosse Association formed	1867	E.N.A. Act uniting the provinces of Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia into the Dominion of Canada effective July 1st
Sir John Young (Lord Lisgar) appointed Governor-General (1868-1872)	Rowing team wins at Paris exposition		
Montreal Football Club founded	First international lacrosse match between teams of white players Buffalo, N.Y. vs. Prescott, Ontario	1868	Assassination of Thomas D'Arcy McGee in Ottawa Great Seal of Canada prescribed by royal warrant. Victoria becomes capital of British Columbia
"Lacrosse: The National Game of Canada" published by Beers	Casimir Gzowski founds the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association	1869	Canada purchases North-West Territories (Rupert's Land) from the Hudson's Bay Company Louis Riel sets up a provisional government in Red River Territory
Caledonian clubs from Canada and the U.S. formed North American Caledonian Association to promote track and field athletics	First International Lachine rowing regatta	1870	Commons passes Manitoba Act Manitoba becomes fifth province Thomas Scott executed by Riel's provisional government Dominion Note Act establishes uniform currency



GOVERNORS-GENERAL and  
SPORT

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN  
CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY

YEAR  
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN  
HISTORY

Barrie (Ontario) Riding and Driving Park Assoc. formed- promoted trotting	1871	British Columbia joins the Dominion as the sixth province
Prince Rupert's Lacrosse Club formed, the first in Manitoba		Treaty of Washington is ratified
Ottawa and Lord Dufferin host touring English Cricket team		The General Bank Act establishes Canadian banking system
Lord Dufferin attends first snowshoe carnivals in Ottawa and Montreal		"Canadian Illustrated News" first to print photographs using half-tone engraving
Construction of curling and skating rinks at Rideau Hall		Canadian Chess Association 1872 formed in Hamilton
Montreal Golf Club formed	1873	Macdonald retains power in federal election
Rugby football match between a "Canadian" and "English" team in Toronto		Toronto <u>Mail</u> established
Newspaper reports of skiing in Toronto area		Toronto printers' strike followed by Trade Union Act
North-West Mounted Police estab.		Homesteading Act
Medals presented to Dominion Rifle Association with teams from Canada, U.S and England	1874	Prince Edward Island joins Confederation as seventh province
Medals presented for skating (Montreal), cricket, Quebec Golf Club formed		Pacific Scandal; Macdonald resigns
yachting, rowing,		Alexander Mackenzie takes over as Prime Minister
Construction of toboggan slide at Rideau Hall		North-West Mounted Police estab.
Halifax Cricket tournament 1874		Federal Election confirms Mackenzie as Prime Minister
First Intercollegiate soccer game- U. of T. vs Queen's		1,400 Mennonite families immigrate to Manitoba
Royal Military College established in Kingston		Carnarvon Arbitration between Dominion and B.C. over C.P.R.



GOVERNORS-GENERAL and  
SPCRTSIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN  
CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY

## YEAR

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN  
HISTORY

Hanlan wins Governor-General's medal in rowing	Toronto Granite Club formed	1875	Supreme Court of Canada established Construction of CPR transcontinental begins at Thunder Bay
Lord Dufferin establishes Governor-General's Prize in curling	First (claimed) game of ice hockey played in Montreal. (C.A.H.A. claims Kingston as the birthplace		Railway survey of Newfoundland conducted by Sandford Fleming
Medals awarded in skating, rifle shooting, yachting (Halifax), rowing (B.C.)	Toronto Lawn Tennis club formed		"Pacific" collides with "Orpheus" off B.C. coast; 250 lives lost
Montreal wins Lord Dufferin's medal for curling	First authentic record of football match in Canada played under Association Football rules- Carleton Football Club (Toronto) vs. Toronto Lacrosse Club football team	1876	Alexander Graham Bell completes first 'long distance' telephone call - Brantford to Paris, Ontario
Touring lacrosse team from Montreal and Caughnawaga Clubs play in England	Canadian Baseball Assoc. formed		First wheat harvest in Manitoba to yield a surplus for export
Lord Dufferin facilitated the tour.	Montreal Bicycle Club formed - first in Canada		Intercolonial Railway officially completed from Ontario to Maritimes
Quebec Curling Club wins Governor-General's medal	Hanlan won his first Canadian single sculls championship	1877	Opposition leader John A. Macdonald formulates National Policy
Medals awarded for rifle shooting, quoits (Halifax), rowing (B.C.) swimming (Toronto)	Metropolitan Hockey Club of Montreal formed; first (claimed) regular ice hockey club in Canada		St. John, N.B. partially destroyed by fire
Hanlan wins special gold medal			Dominion Fisheries Act
			University of Manitoba chartered



Lord Dufferin attended inaugural match of Thistle Lacrosse Club, Quebec City won by the Caughnawagas	1878	Harlan wins U.S. sculling title	1879	Macdonald's Conservatives defeat Liberals in Dominion elections
Marquis of Lorne becomes Governor-General		Dominion Football Assoc. formed in Montreal		Canada Temperance Act (Scott Act) establishes local option
		First ice-boating club formed Trenton, Ontario		Universities of Montreal and Western Ontario established
		First tennis tournament in Canada held at Montreal Cricket Club		Edison granted Canadian patent on phonograph
Ottawa Valley Cricket Council and the Marquis of Lorne host a touring team from the U.S.		Annual Canada -U.S. cricket series, which lapsed after 1865 was resumed; series continued until 1912		Commons authorizes 100,000,000 acres of western land for CPR
		First track and field event at Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto "half-mile footrace"		Miners' strike at Springhill, N.S.
Hanlan wins world sculling championship at Tyne, Eng.		Hanlan wins world sculling championship at Tyne, Eng.		Thanksgiving is first observed in Canada
Governor-General's Silver Cup for curling awarded to single winner of the Dominion Competition	1880	National Lacrosse Association becomes an amateur organization. Indians (Professionals) are barred		Agreement with the CPR company for the construction of the railway
Lord Lorne- Patron of Montreal Caledonian Games		Toronto Canoe Club formed.		The Dominion acquires sovereignty from Britain over Arctic Islands
		Hanlan wins world challenge sculling match, Washington, D.C.		Edward Blake succeeds Alexander Mackenzie as chief of the Liberals
		National Gallery founded in Ottawa		



SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN  
CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY	YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
Curling prizes for both iron-playing and stone- playing clubs awarded		
Lord Lorne organizes cross-Canada tour		
Winnipeg Cricket team is hosted at Rideau Hall		
Prizes are offered by the Governor-General for lawn tennis in Ottawa		
Canadian Rugby Football Union formed	1882	Macdonald's Conservatives returned in federal election
Traditional "scrum" of English game abolished in Canada due to influence of American "snapback" system. This represented starting point in separation between English and North American games.		CPR completed to Winnipeg
Quebec won first inter- provincial golf match		The North-West Territories are divided into four Districts; Saskatchewan, Alberta, Assiniboia and Athabaska
The Marquis of Lansdowne succeeds Lord Lorne as Governor-General		Royal Society of Canada founded
The Governor-General accepts positions as patron of the Ontario Curling Association and Dominion Rifle Association		
First Montreal Winter Carnival held	1883	Calgary Weekly Herald formed Stock Market fall hinders progress of CPR
Ontario Rugby Football Union formed		With influx of immigrants declining and dry summer the west collapsed into depression
Queen's Plate is permanently established in Toronto		
A Canadian lacrosse team tours Great Britain acting as 'emigrating agents'		
First Dominion Women's Lawn Tennis Championships held		



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GOVERNORS-GENERAL and  
SPORT

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN  
CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY

YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
1884	<p>Governor-General Lansdowne was a key figure in the festivities of the Montreal Winter Carnival</p> <p>Cricket matches at Rideau Hall take place between the Ottawa Cricket Club and Government House</p> <p>His Excellency hosts the Canadian Snow Shoe Club in Ottawa</p> <p>Permission from Queen Victoria is given through the Governor-General for the Montreal Golf Club to affix "Royal" to its name</p>
1885	<p>A Cricket team of Members of Parliament defeat Government House</p> <p>Rideau Hall hosts the visiting Boston cricket Club</p> <p>Louis Rubenstein (Montreal) wins U.S. amateur figure skating championship</p> <p>First organized ice hockey league is formed in Kingston (C.A.H.A. claim)</p>
1886	<p>Rising of Metis and Indians in the North-West under the leadership of Riel; troops mobilized revolt is suppressed</p> <p>Trial and hanging of Riel</p> <p>Donald Smith drives last spike in CPR at Craigellachie, Nov. 7.</p> <p>CPR telegraph completed from Atlantic to Pacific</p>
1886	<p>Toronto and Hamilton are admitted to an 8-club International Baseball League</p> <p>Amateur Hockey Association of Canada is formed</p> <p>First representative soccer team from Canada plays U.S. in Newark, New Jersey</p>



SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN SPORTING HISTORY	YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
Canadian cricket team tours England	1887	Macdonald's Conservatives retain power in the Dominion elections
Canadian Junior Amateur Hockey Association formed		First Interprovincial Conference of premiers held at Quebec City
Gaudaur defeats Hanlan for North American sculling title		Explosion in coal mine at Nanaimo B.C.; 150 lives lost
Patronage of Lansdowne to Dominion Rifle Association is acknowledged		Wilfred Laurier succeeds Edward Blake as leader of the liberals
Gifts of silver and bronze medals donated to provincial associations; gift of \$250 to be invested in a cup to be called Lansdowne Cup		
Lord Stanley presents silver and bronze medals to the Provincial Rifle Associations		
Hamilton School of Physical Culture is opened- first institution to train professional physical educators	1888	The Liberal party proposes unrestricted reciprocity with the United States
Sixty-two rinks gather at the Winnipeg Curling Bonspiel		The Equal Rights Association formed in Ontario
British Columbia Rugby Union is formed		Methodist Church Conference sends a woman suffrage petition to the House of Commons
Louis Cyr "Strongest Man in the World" performs in London, England before Prince of Wales		Large new deposits of coal discovered in Nova Scotia
		Joseph Martin announces the policy of abolishing separate schools in Manitoba
		Gabriel Dumont pardoned for his part in the Northwest Rebellion
		CPR telegraph joins the Atlantic cable at Canso, N.S.
		Canadian College of Music opens in Ottawa



SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY	YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
Lord Stanley hosts skating carnival at Rideau Hall "Sport figured more prominently than ever before." (Hubbard)	1890	Louis Rubenstein wins unofficial world figure skating championships at St. Petersburg, Russia
Ontario Hockey Assoc. formed	1890	First high school built in Vancouver
Maritime Provinces Rugby Football Union formed	1890	Continental Union Association formed
The great bicycle craze of the nineties begins	1891	The Manitoba legislature passes Schools Act ending tax support for French-Catholic school system
Lord Stanley facilitated presentation of the Queen's Cup for Canadian Yachting	1891	Global influenza epidemics
Lord Stanley proposed changes in the Dominion competition for the Governor-General's curling prize	1891	First high school built in Vancouver
Lord Hawke's U.K. cricket team makes first tour to Canada and the U.S.	1891	John A. Macdonald dies; John Abbott becomes prime minister
George Meagher wins unofficial world figure skating championship	1891	CP establishes trans-Pacific steamship line
Basketball first introduced to Canada through Y.M.C.A.'s Canada Vs U.S. curling series organized	1892	Tory MP's Hector Langevin and Thomas McGreevy implicated in government contracts scandal
First football championship played under new code of rules authorized by re-organized Canadian Rugby Union	1892	Canadian Children's Aid Society formed
Provincial Rifle Shooting Awards presented	1892	John Abbott resigns; John Thompson becomes prime minister
Edmonton incorporated as a town; population 700.	1892	Edmonton incorporated as a town; population 700.
Royal commission appointed to consider national prohibition	1892	Royal commission appointed to consider national prohibition
Fire devastates downtown St. John's, Nfld; 10,000 homeless	1892	Fire devastates downtown St. John's, Nfld; 10,000 homeless



YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
1893	<p>Stanley Cup presents for annual competition- Dominion amateur hockey-championship</p> <p>Lord Stanley facilitates reconstruction of the Ottawa Cricket pavilion destroyed by fire</p> <p>The Earl of Aberdeen succeeds Lord Stanley as Governor-General</p>
1894	<p>Amateur Athletic Assoc. of Canada championships held in Montreal</p> <p>"Men of Zorra", Canadian championship tug-of-war team wins world championship at Chicago World's Fair</p> <p>First Canadian motor car produced in Toronto</p>
1895	<p>Royal Canadian Golf Assoc. 1894 is formed</p> <p>In the first Stanley Cup game- MAAA club defeats Ottawa 3-1</p> <p>Gaudaur establishes record time for 3 miles- world sculling champion</p> <p>First Canadian Snow Shoe championships held at Quebec City</p>
1895	<p>Lord Aberdeen institutes a trophy for competition by clubs within the Ontario Curling Assoc.</p> <p>Vice-Regal family witness the Montreal Winter Carnival</p> <p>Aberdeen Cup presented- emblematic of the national amateur golf championship</p> <p>T. H. Hayhurst becomes first Canadian to win Queen's Prize at the Bisley shooting tournament</p> <p>Cyr lifts 4,337 lbs.- claims to be greatest ever</p> <p>Canada Cup Yacht Race inaugurated</p>
1895	<p>John Thompson dies; Mackenzie Bowell becomes prime minister</p> <p>Bank failures lead Newfoundland to propose union with Canada</p> <p>Labor Day celebrated for first time in Canada</p> <p>Joseph Pope publishes "Memoirs of the Right Honourable Sir John Macdonald</p> <p>Aluminum first produced in Canada at Niagara Falls, Ontario</p> <p>Mackenzie, Yukon, Ungava and Franklin districts formed</p> <p>Pauline Johnson publishes "The White Wampum", her first collection of poetry</p>



SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY	YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
Lord Aberdeen agrees to have the grounds of Government House made available to other groups sponsored by the Ottawa Cricket Club- tennis, bowls, quoits		Winnipeg wins the Stanley Cup- the only time in the 19th Century that Montreal lost
Patronage extended to the Aberdeen Hockey Club, Ottawa		First recorded ladies field hockey match- Vancouver
Lord Aberdeen facilitates the Vancouver Yacht Club being designated as a "Royal" club.		Gaudaur becomes single sculls champion of the world- until 1901
Their Excellencies attend sporting events at the Ottawa Jubilee Celebrations		Western Canada Lacrosse Association formed
Patron of Dominion Chess Championship	1897	Canadian Intercollegiate Rugby Football Union is formed
Canadian driver, Dave McClary drives first 2 min. mile in harness racing	1897	World Speed Skating Championships held at Montreal
The Earl of Minto is appointed Governor-General	1898	Protest in Quebec over compulsory vaccination of school children
Yates Cup awarded to Senior Intercollegiate Rugby Champions	1898	Geographic Board of Canada is established
First official Canadian Swimming Championships		Responsible Government granted to the North-West Territories
Rossland, B.C. winter carnival- promoted as first ski running and ski jumping championships in Canada		Canada celebrates Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee
		Protest in Quebec over compulsory vaccination of school children
		Geographic Board of Canada is established
		Dominion prohibition plebiscite.
		Prohibition wins
		Yukon gold rush leads to U.S.- Canada dispute over Alaska boundary
		Federal Franchise Act gives control over right to vote to the provinces



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CANADIAN SPORT

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY	YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
Canada's best performance vs. an English XI- cricket	1899	PM Laurier calls for voluntary enlistment of troops for service in the South African Boer War
World cycling champion- ships held at Montreal		Last British troops withdrawn from Halifax, N.S.
First official Intercol- legiate Track meet (U. of Toronto vs McGill)		More than 7,000 Doukhobors migrate from Russia to Southern Saskatchewan
Dufferin Raceway opened, Toronto	1900	Important ice-hockey rule changes
Annual Snowshoe Club Championships (Montreal)- few entries; no records- decline in interest in snowshoeing		Hull, Quebec destroyed by fire
Ontario Amateur Athletic Association formed		Mackenzie King organizes department of labour for the Laurier government and becomes first deputy minister
J. Gaffrey (Hamilton) wins Boston marathon		Canadian troops see action in Boer War
First championship for Minto Cup, presented by Governor-General Lord Minto, for amateur teams across Canada: winners, Ottawa Capitals. Within three years, Minto Cup became symbolic of pro- fessional champions of Canada	1901	Queen Victoria dies; succeeded by Edward VII
Canadian paddlers won every event in canoe races at the Pan-Am Exhibition, Buffalo, New York		Robert Borden replaces Charles Tupper as leader of the Tories
First Canadian Ladies' Golf Championship, Mon- treal		Territorial Grain Growers' Association organized in Sask.
First Canadian Amateur Wrestling Championships,		Marconi receives first Trans- Atlantic wireless message at St. John's Nfld.



YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
1902	Trans-Pacific telegraph cable from Vancouver to Brisbane, Australia is completed. The Peace of Vereeniging ends the Boer War.
1903	American Federation of Labor becomes dominant force in the Canadian labour movement
1904	Boundary arbitration establishes Alaskan border between Canada and the United States. Roald Amundsen travels the Northwest Passage from east to west in the 'Gjoa'. Silver discovered by railway workers near Cobalt, Ontario.
1904	Major section of downtown Toronto destroyed by fire. Fourteen-year old violinist Kathleen Parlow of Calgary debuts with the London Symphony. Charles E. Saunders produces disease-resistant, quick-ripening Marquis wheat.
1904	Galt, Ont. team wins the soccer gold medal and Winnipeg Shamrocks win the lacrosse event at the St. Louis Olympic Games.
1904	Lou Scholes wins Diamond Sculls race at Henley, England.
1904	First Canadian team of lawn bowlers to tour the British Isles.
1904	Lord Minto is instrumental in arranging the tour of the Scottish curling team in Canada.
1904	First Canadian fencing championships held at Mt. Assiniboine, "Matterhorn of the Canadian Rockies", first climbed.
1904	First tour of the British Isles by a Canadian Rugby team.
1904	Men's and Ladies' Figure Skating Prizes are awarded by Lord and Lady Minto.
1904	Vice-regal couple are responsible for the founding of the Minto Skating Club, Ottawa (Home club of Barbara Ann Scott- World Figure Skating Champion).



YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
1905	First Canadian-made electric automobile produced
	Lord Grey attends the annual meeting of the Ontario Curling Assoc- iation as Patron and states his intention to continue the Governor- General's Prizes
	Lord Grey opens the Ottawa Curling Club as Patron
	Four Canadians compete in 1906 "Interim" Olympic Games in Athens, winning 1 gold and 1 silver medal in track and field.
	Original Canadian Intercol- legiate Athletic Union formed
	Tommy Burns (Hanover, Ont.) wins world heavyweight pro- boxing championship
1907	Interprovincial Rugby Union formed in merger of Quebec Union and Ontario Union with teams from Ottawa, Hamilton, Toronto and Montreal
	Twice suspended and re-in- stated by C.A.A.U. in con- nection with professionalism Tom Longboat wins Boston marathon
	Federal "Lord's Day Act" passed making commercial sports on Sunday illegal
	Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission established under Adam Beck
	John McClelland establishes McClelland and Goodchild, Publishers



SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY	YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
At the London Olympics: Canada wins medals in cycling, lacrosse, rifle shooting, track & field	1908	Royal Canadian Mint completed on Sussex Drive, Ottawa
Allan Cup is presented for senior amateur hockey. Stanley Cup becomes a professional trophy		Laurier's Liberals win fourth consecutive federal election
Curling team from Canada tours Scotland for the first time		University of Alberta founded at Edmonton
Governor-General Earl Grey presents the Grey Cup for amateur rugby in Canada. It is won in its first year by the University of Toronto.	1909	Civil Service Commission appointed for the selection of federal government workers
The Earl Grey Trophy for figure skating is presented		Fire destroys Trois-Rivieres, Que.
Canada's first Inter-national equestrian team competes in London, England.		J.A.D. McCurdy makes first airplane flight in Canada at Baddeck, N.S. in "Silver Dart"
Canadian Amateur Swimming Association is formed to control swimming, diving and water polo in Canada.		United Farmers of Alberta organized
Walter Krow (Crillia, Ont.) sets world record for 100-yard sprint		Cobalt's annual silver production reaches \$20 million.
National Hockey Assoc. as forerunner to National Hockey League	1910	Parliament resolves to build Canadian navy.
Mann Cup is donated as challenge trophy for senior amateur lacrosse teams		King Edward VII dies; George V succeeds to the throne
		Labour Minister Mackenzie King introduces Combines Investigation Bill
		Halley's Comet observed



SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN  
CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY	YEAR	SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN HISTORY
Lord Grey completes his extended term and the Duke of Connaught is appointed to the office of Governor-General		
Connaught Cup for thoroughbred racing is presented for three-year olds and upwards		Canadian athletes participate in "Festival of Empire" games on the occasion of coronation of King George V
Duke of Connaught presents an International Skating Trophy to be competed for in Canada		Western Canada Rugby Football Union is formed
Another Scottish curling team tours Canada		Another Scottish curling team tours Canada
At the Stockholm Olympic Games Canada wins 3 gold, 2 silver and 3 bronze in track & field, swimming and rowing.	1912	CPR completes first major irrigation system in Alberta
Eastern Baseball League changes its name to the International Baseball League.		W. H. Wright discovers gold at Kirkland Lake
Canadian Amateur Lacrosse Association and the Dominion Lacrosse Association are formed		Ontario Regulation 17 restricts use of French in Ontario schools.
Canadian Olympic Assoc is formed.	1913	Nellie McClung forms Political Equality League.
The Ontario Curling Assoc inaugurates the Ontario Ladies' Tankard		First Calgary Stampede.
Walter Knox wins "all round pro track & field championship of the world" taking 6 out of 8 events		S.S. 'Titanic' sinks after collision with iceberg off Newfoundland 1,595 lost.
Connaught Cup is presented for annual competition in soccer between teams from provincial associations		Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec boundaries extended to Hudson Bay.
Canadian Olympic Assoc is formed.		Immigration reaches all-time high over 400,000 arrive in Canada
The Ontario Curling Assoc inaugurates the Ontario Ladies' Tankard		Stefansson and Anderson begin five-year exploration of Arctic Canada.
Walter Knox wins "all round pro track & field championship of the world" taking 6 out of 8 events		Radio-Telegraph Act opens first stage of development of radio broadcasting in Canada.



SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN  
CANADIAN SPORT HISTORY

YEAR

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CANADIAN  
FISTORY

Figure Skating Department of Canada formed, with Louis Rubenstein as first President; consisting of Minto Skating Club of Ottawa and Earl Grey Skating Club of Montreal. Duchess of Connaught presents trophy for Canadian Ladies' Skating Championship

The Ontario Curling Assoc inaugurates the Ontario Ladies' Tankard

Formation of Canadian Amateur Hockey Assoc to administer the Allan Cup

Walter Knox wins the "all-round professional track and field world championship taking 6 of 8 events.

Edmonton Grads (women) Canada's most famous and successful basketball group is formed by Percy Page, team coach.

First domestic war loan issued Canadian First Division holds Ypres when Germans first use chlorine gas as a weapon of war John McCrae publishes "In Flanders Fields" in Punch

Duke of Connaught's term as Governor-General is completed

Montreal Canadiens win their first Stanley Cup

1916 Parliament Buildings in Ottawa destroyed by fire.

Sir Julian Byng takes command of Canadian Corps in Europe

First women to vote in Canada mark ballot in Alberta's elections

Great Britain declares war on Germany; Canada also at war.

S.S. 'Empress of Ireland' sinks in Gulf of St. Lawrence; 1,024 lost.

Canadian Expeditionary Force mobilizes at Valcartier, Que.

Viking gas field in Alberta discovered





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